



BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1937.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Camb.),
Of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.

Past President of the Society of Medical Officers of Health.



BATLEY

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1938.



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To the Right Hon. Sir H. Kingsley Wood, Minister of Health, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Batley.

This Annual Report is compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 1650 (England), issued by the Ministry of Health, 4th October, 1937:—

General Statistics, 1937.

Area of Borough in Acres	4,461
Civil Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)	40,060
Population at Census of 1931 (Males 19,323, Females 22,454)	41,777
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931)	11,889
Total Private Families at Census (1931)	11,918
Population living more than two persons per room (Census, 1931)	14%
Number of inhabited houses, 1937 (according to Rate books)	12,956
Average number of persons per house	3.1
Density of population, per acre	8.9
Number of Births (Males 280, Females 272)	552
Illegitimate Births (Males 7, Females 4)	11
Birth-Rate per 1,000 living	13.8
Number of Still Births Registered	37
Illegitimate Birth-Rate per 1,000 births registered	19.9
Number of Deaths, including Residents who died away from Batley (Males 295, Females 298)	593
Net Death-Rate per 1,000 living	14.8
Infantile Death-Rate per 1,000 Births Registered	47.1
Illegitimate Death-Rate per 1,000 Births Registered	3.6
Tuberculosis Death-Rate (all forms), per 1,000	0.4
Phthisis Death-Rate per 1,000	0.3
Zymotic Death-Rate per 1,000	0.2
Respiratory Diseases Death-Rate per 1,000 (excluding Phthisis)	1.2
Cancer Death-Rate per 1,000	1.8
Cases of Infectious Disease notified (including all forms of Tuberculosis)	+251
Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified	11
Cases of other forms of Tuberculosis notified	6
Number of Inquests	47
Rateable Value	£152,041
Rate of 1d. in the £ produces	£667 approx.
Rainfall in inches	27.82
Number of Wet Days	174
Parliamentary Voters	23,824
Parliamentary Voters (plus Birstall Ward) in Spen Valley Parliamentary Division	5,043
Local Government Voters	22,044
Poor Law Relief Distributed	£10,772
Primary Vaccinations, exclusive of Smallpox Contacts	*63
Exemption Certificates Granted	*330
*Birstall figures are not included.	
Dried Milk given under Milk (Mothers and Children) Order	885 lbs. Cost £56 13s. 8d.
Infants Born during 1937, fed wholly or partially from Public Funds	18 or 3.3%

+ Of these, 1 Scarlet Fever and 15 Diphtheria were discharged from Hospital as not having suffered from those diseases. They had been admitted upon the signed certificate of the practitioner stating that they were so suffering.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

AREA. On April 1st, 1937, the acreage was increased to 4,461 by the inclusion of the Urban District of Birstall.

POPULATION.—At the 1931 Census the population of Batley proved to be 34,573. The Registrar-General estimates the population of Batley at the middle of 1937 to be 40,060. On April 1st, 1937, the population was increased by the inclusion of the Urban District of Birstall.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (at end of 1937) according to Rate Books was 12,956.

RATEABLE VALUE £152,041

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE Estimated £667
(approx.)

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—These have been described in previous annual reports.

The following extracts from the local Press of January 1st, 1938, are of interest:—

Prosperity returned to the heavy woollen industry during 1936 and continued unabated during three-quarters of 1937. Orders were plentiful and most firms not only worked overtime but also employed night-shifts.

A change came in September. Wool values began to fall and the trade began to experience acute difficulties.

In most factories production slowed down and in some cases short time became the rule.

But the outlook has already improved.

Rag merchants had an experience similar to those engaged in manufacturing. When wool slumped, the value of rags also fell. But there has been an encouraging recovery during the past month.

A shortage of labour is reported from local collieries, where there has been no lack of employment.

Activity in the building trade has continued, the only checks being due to a shortage of skilled labour and, at times, a lack of materials.

Engineering firms have also had a busy year.

Signs are not wanting that before very long the wool textile and allied trades of the district will be sharing in the country's general prosperity, which, in spite of the pessimists, shows no sign of waning.

**Borough of Batley—Vital Statistics of Whole District
during 1937 and Previous Years.**

Yearly Average	Estimated Population	NETT BIRTHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
		Number	Rate per 1,000	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Rate per 1,000
10 years 1901-10	31,694	827	26.1	143	171	537	17.0
10 years 1911-20	36,435	676	20.5	93	123	571	16.0
10 years 1921-30	35,765	624	17.3	48	76.5	482	13.4
Year							
1931	34,890	509	14.6	31	60.9	465	13.3
1932	34,550	465	13.4	27	58.06	494	14.3
1933	34,040	447	13.1	26	55.9	503	14.8
1934	33,890	453	13.4	20	44.2	436	12.9
1935	33,610	441	13.1	22	49.9	454	13.5
1936	33,350	453	13.6	30	66.2	454	13.6
1937	40,060	552	13.8	26	47.1	593	14.8
England & Wales		....	14.9	....	58	....	12.4
125 County Bor- oughs and Great Towns including London		....	14.9	....	62	....	12.5
148 Smaller Towns		....	15.3	....	55	....	11.9
LONDON	....	....	13.3	....	60	....	12.3

PROVISIONAL FIGURES 1937

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births—Legitimate	541	273	268	
Illegitimate	11	7	4	Birth Rate 13.8
Stillbirths	37	20	17	Rate per 1,000
				total births 62.8
Deaths	593	295	298	Death Rate 14.8
				Rate per 1,000
Deaths from puerperal causes:—				total births.
Puerperal sepsis			Nil.	
Other puerperal causes			2	3.4
Total			2	3.4
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—				
All Infants per 1,000 live births				47.1
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				44.4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				131.8
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)				72
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)				1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				1

There has been excessive mortality during the year from Diphtheria, which was the cause of 6 deaths, and Influenza 20 deaths. Violence was the cause of 20 deaths against 8 in 1936.

BIRTHS.—The Registrar-General reports the registration—which is distinct from notification—of 552 births in Batley during 1937. There were 37 still births registered in addition to the live births.

The nett birth-rate for Batley is 13.8 per thousand of population for the year 1937.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907.—Doctors notified 29, midwives 498, and other persons 43 births, a total of 570 during 1937. Of these 36 were still births.

INFANTILE DEATH RATE.—This is 47.1 per thousand of the births registered. Of the twenty-six infant deaths, eighteen were due to premature birth and/or congenital debility, which should cause very serious consideration.

GENERAL DEATH RATE is 14.8 per thousand of the population.

The Registrar General's figures for the Borough of Batley include figures for the Birstall Urban District, up to April 1st, 1937.

A comparison with other years may be made by referring to the Table on the preceding page, which gives the vital statistics for 1937 and previous years since 1901.

Causes of Death in Batley for the year 1937.

1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	—	20. Pneumonia (all forms)	25
2. Measles	—	21. Other respiratory diseases	7
3. Scarlet Fever	—	22. Peptic ulcer	4
4. Whooping Cough	1	23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	1
5. Diphtheria	6	24. Appendicitis	2
6. Influenza	20	25. Cirrhosis of liver	1
7. Encephalitis lethargica	3	26. Other diseases of liver, etc	2
8. Cerebro-spinal fever	—	27. Other digestive diseases	7
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	13	28. Acute and chronic nephritis	31
10. Other tuberculosis diseases	1	29. Puerperal sepsis	—
11. Syphilis	1	30. Other puerperal causes	2
12. General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	4	31. Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	18
13. Cancer, malignant disease	72	32. Senility	13
14. Diabetes	12	33. Suicide	3
15. Cerebral hemorrhage, etc.	42	34. Other violence	20
16. Heart Diseases	160	35. Other defined diseases	58
17. Aneurysm	1	36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	—
18. Other circulatory diseases	46	37. Diarrhoea (2 years and over)	—
19. Bronchitis	17		

Special Causes (included in No. 35 above):—

Smallpox	—	Polioencephalitis	—
Poliomyelitis	—		

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

I. Detailed information as to the Health Services was given in the Annual Reports for 1930 and 1931. Existing conditions are summarised in this Annual Report.

(i) Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

(a) MEDICAL.

Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, School Medical Officer and Medical Superintendent Maternity Home	G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Camb.), L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.), Barrister at Law (Inner Temple)
Assistant Medical Officer of Health, M. and C.W. (part time)	Gwendolen Buckle, M.B., B.S. (Durh.).
Consulting Obstetric Surgeon	D. W. Currie, M.D. (Leeds), F.R.C.S. (Eng.).
Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon & Hon. Ophth. Surgeon Maternity Home (part time)	Randal Herley, B.A., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.).
Orthopædic Surgeon (part time)....	H. L. Crockatt, M.B., Ch.B. (Leeds).
Dental Surgeon to Ante-Natal Clinic (part time)	G. C. Grundy, L.D.S., L.R.C.P. & L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.).

(b) OTHERS.

School Dentist (part time)	Vacant since March 31st, 1937.
Veterinary Inspector (part time)	Geo. Whitehead, M.R.C.V.S.
Public Analyst (part time)	F. W. Richardson, F.I.C., F.C.S.
Senior Sanitary Inspector	Harold Hornby, M.R.S.I., + ‡ ¶
	R. Coope, + ‡ ¶ *
District Sanitary Inspectors	N. L. Wilding, + ‡ ¶
	A. Pearson, + ‡ ¶
	W. M. Davis, + ‡
Superintendent Health Visitor, Superintendent School Nurse, Administrative Matron of Maternity Home	H. Evans, § ||
	E. Farthing, § || O
Health Visitors and School Nurses	K. Taylor, § || O
	H. Birch, § || O
	E. G. Fisher, § || O
	M. Daglish, § || O
Masseuse	Doris M. Myers, ç
Chief Clerk	K. Lister.
	L. Allatt, × -
Clerks	K. Steels, ×
	A. D. Foggo.
	I. Wilson, ×
	W. A. H. Gale
	(Housing Act, 1936).
Maternity Home—	I. A. Walton, § ||
{ Staff Nurse . . .	M. Bird, ||
{ Nurse Midwife	A. Richardson, ||
{ Midwife	R. M. Meredith, ||
{ Midwife	C. Dransfield, § ||
Municipal Midwives	E. A. Fearnside, § ||
	F. Kitson, ||
	E. Robinson, § ||

- † Holds Certificate for Sanitary Inspectors, Royal Sanitary Institute, or Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
- ‡ Holds Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods, Royal Sanitary Institute.
- ¶ Holds Certificate for Smoke Inspectors, Royal Sanitary Institute.
- § Holds Certificate for three years' general training, State Registered Nurse.
- O Holds Certificate for Health Visitors, Royal Sanitary Institute, approved by Ministry of Health.
- || Holds Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.
- × Holds Northern Universities' School Leaving Certificate.
- * Holds Certificate for Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works, Royal Sanitary Institute.
- Holds Northern Universities' Matriculation Certificate.
- ç Holds Certificate of Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastion.

(ii) (a) **LABORATORY FACILITIES.**—There has been no change in the existing arrangements. Facilities are provided at the County Council Laboratories, Wakefield, for the examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens. The figures for the year 1937 are:—Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli, 41; Swabs for B. Diphtheriæ, 737; Sera for Widal Reaction, 5; Milks for Bacteriological Examination, 66; Milks for Tubercle Bacilli, 58; Water for Bacteriological Examination, 43; Urines for General Examination and Tubercle Bacilli, 27; Urines and Fæces for Typhoid, 4; Other Examinations, 70. Total, 1,051.

(b) **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**—There has been no change in the arrangements previously described, which are adequate for the requirements of the district. Corps Superintendent Horne, of the local Ambulance Brigade, continued during the year his much appreciated services on behalf of the Association and the town generally. The extension of the Borough has been the means of increasing the Ambulance facilities inasmuch as the Birstall Branch of the St. John Ambulance Association is now included therein.

(c) **NURSING IN THE HOME.**—The Batley Nursing Service functions in three wards of the Borough. The Soothill Ward is served by the Dewsbury Nursing Association and the Birstall Ward by the Birstall Nursing Association.

In addition to the arrangements for general nursing in the homes of the people the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee in July, 1937, instituted the provision of Home Helps where a mother is temporarily laid aside through child-birth.

A similar scheme was tried some twenty years since and proved a failure. No applications had been received under the new scheme up to April, 1938.

(d) **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

Name.	Address.	Session s.	Authority Providing.
Ante and Post Natal Clinics	Wellington Street Batley	Tuesday, 9-15 a.m.— 12 noon. Thursday, 9-15 a.m. —12 noon	Batley Corporation
Contraceptive Clinic	Ditto	By appointment	Ditto
Infant Welfare Centre	Ditto	Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.	Ditto
Ditto	Old Council Offices, Birstall	Wednesday, 2—4 p.m.	Ditto
Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic	Wellington Street Batley	Wednesday, 10-30 a.m.—12 noon	Ditto
Orthopædic Clinic	Temperance Hall, Batley	Monthly, 1st or 2nd Thursday, 10-30 a.m.—12 noon	Ditto
Massage, etc. Clinic	Ditto	Tuesday & Thursday 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon 2—5 p.m.	Ditto
Minor Ailments Clinic	School Clinic, Back Cambridge Street Batley	Daily, 9 a.m. and 4-15 p.m.	Ditto
Ditto	Old Council Offices, Birstall	Monday and Friday, 9 a.m. Wednesday, 4 p.m.	Ditto
Ophthalmic Clinic	School Clinic, Back Cambridge Street, Batley	When required, 2—5 p.m.	Ditto
Dental Clinic	Ditto	Mon., Tues., Wed., 9 a.m.—12 noon. 2—5 p.m. Alternate Saturdays, 9 a.m.—12 noon.	Ditto
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Branch House, Batley	Thursday, 2—4 p.m. and 6—8 p.m.	West Riding County Council
Treatment Centres for Venereal Disease	Dewsbury Infirmary	Monday, 3 p.m. Thursday, 6-30 p.m.	Ditto

(e) **HOSPITALS.**—There were no changes during the year in the hospital services, public or voluntary, whether within or without the area, which are used by the inhabitants of the area.

The Maternity Home administered by the Town Council, has been previously described.

During 1937 there were 249 bookings; 213 patients admitted, of whom 10 resided outside the Borough; 207 confinements, including 10 patients who resided outside Batley; and 213 infants born.

8.1 per cent. of the Batley patients confined in the Maternity Home were living in lodgings.

The Housing Conditions of 2,540 patients residents of Batley, who were Patients in the Batley Maternity Home from opening in October, 1922, to December 31st, 1937, were as follows:—

Years	Type of House				Total number of rooms in house						Occupants of House												Circumstances of Patient			
	B. to B.	Single	Through	One Room	1	2	3	4	5	6 and over	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 or over	Living in own House	Living in own House with Lodgers	Living in Lodgings		
1922-37 (inclusive)	1226	523	766	25	32	982	744	406	309	67	267	751	623	402	208	134	73	35	23	12	12	1972	62	506		
Year 1937	90	30	77	—	—	71	43	39	41	3	77	58	34	20	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	175	6	16		

In 1925 it was arranged that it be brought to the notice of all patients that the cost to the Corporation is much greater than the amount paid by individual patients, and each is invited to make such a donation when leaving the Home as her financial circumstances may warrant. The amount contributed up to December 31st, 1937, was £160 7s. 6d., of which £5 17s. 0d. was given during 1937. On no occasion has any donation been made by patients residing outside Batley.

During 1937 the attendances of Batley residents at the Veneréal Diseases Clinics were:—

Leeds Infirmary—5 males and 5 females.

Dewsbury Infirmary—27 males and 8 females.

Without doubt there would be others who obtained treatment in other ways and from other sources, legal or illegal.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC, 1925 to 1937.

	Yearly average. 1925-29.	Yearly average. 1930-34.	Year. 1935.	Year. 1936.	Year. 1937.
Individual patients attending Clinic	211	248	250	252	324
Patients found normal	62	58	36	26	50
Patients found suffering from one or more defects	149	190	214	226	274
Total number of attendances at Clinic	636	718	704	765	954

DEFECTS CLASSIFIED.

Respiratory System, including					
Tuberculosis	26	32	66	44	37
Circulatory System, excluding					
Varicose Veins	35	43	76	42	24
Digestive System, excluding defec- tive teeth and constipation	9	29	42	68	86
Urinary System	13	12	12	17	18
Small or deformed pelvis	10	13	26	33	49
Gynæcological defects, including					
venereal disease	11	9	7	10	8
Deformities of Breasts	4	5	8	4	Nil.
Varicose Veins	42	29	25	43	54
Constipation	28	35	32	40	70
Placenta Prævia	0.2	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Teeth	47	60	56	49	53
Miscellaneous	17	23	26	27	39
Anæmia and Debility	12	40	35	47	69
Ante Partum Hæmorrhage	Nil	0.6	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Communications to practitioners respecting patients	64	25	29	32	22
Communications to midwives re- specting patients	0.2	1.2	Nil.	Nil.	2

TABLETS GIVEN TO PATIENTS:—Adexolin, 3,752; Ferrous Sulphate, 5,628; and Ostocalcium, 6,018.

Three patients have been referred from the Ante-Natal Clinic for treatment by the Dental Surgeon, Dr. G. C. Grundy, L.D.S.

POST NATAL CLINIC:—Seventy-three patients made 80 attendances.

CONTRACEPTIVE CLINIC:—Thirteen patients made sixteen attendances.

ATTENDANCES AT WELFARE CENTRES, 1937.

CENTRE.	No. of mothers on Register	Expectant Mothers	Mothers with Infants		New admissions		Average attendance per mother
			Under 12 mths.	Between 1 and 5 yrs.	Under 12 mths.	Between 1 and 5 yrs.	
BIRSTALL (29th Sept. to 29th Dec.)	87	—	252	85	36	20	3.9
WELLINGTON STREET TUESDAY Session FRIDAY Session (2nd Jan.-29th Oct.)	742 {	7 5	1,958 1,033	783 527	206 57	22 4	5.8

RECORD OF INFANTS MEDICALLY EXAMINED AT CENTRES DURING RECENT YEARS.

Yearly Average	New Cases Seen.	ALL CASES.		Not wholly satisfactory
		Infants under 6 months.	Older Children	
1926-30	211	358	325	322
1931-35	245	465	539	238
Year.				
1936	312	386	375	116
1937	372	579	402	148

Table showing number of deaths amongst infants (under 12 months) who attended, or did not attend, a Welfare Centre.
(Deaths under 4 weeks are not included for feeding or attendance.)

Years.	Infant Deaths.		Attended Centre.	Not Attended Centre.	Breast Fed.	Artificially Fed.
	Number.	Died in first month.				
1921-36 (inclusive)	636	349	125	162	147	140
Year						
1937	26	18	2	6	6	2

Of the 26 infant deaths in Batley during 1937, eighteen were due to premature birth and congenital debility.

At the Infant Welfare Centre at Batley, heating is obtained from a coke stove and hot water radiators. The stove is in the basement and, when in use, strong sulphurous odours permeate the rooms. It is certain carbon monoxide gas is also generated. The Medical Officer of Health has warned the M. & C. W. Committee verbally and in writing on five occasions that there is the risk of loss of life through gas poisoning so long as these conditions continue. The warning is again given.

The Infant Welfare Centre at Birstall, which was opened on September 29th, 1937, has continued each Wednesday from 2 to 3-45 p.m. It is in the former Birstall Council Chamber, which is rented by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee from the Gas Committee.

On September 20th the Chairman, Medical Officer of Health and Superintendent Health Visitor inspected the land adjoining the Centre with the object of fixing a position suitable for the erection of a perambulator shelter.

The following letter is self-explanatory:—

22nd December, 1937.

Dear Doctor,

I should like to bring to your notice the danger of accidents to the perambulators belonging to ladies attending the Clinic at Birstall.

These perambulators are parked on the narrow band between the weigh bridge and the weigh office, with the handles of the larger prams over-hanging the weigh bridge platform, and I feel that there is a risk of a wagon manœuvring to get on to the bridge, catching these handles and breaking them.

I think something should be done to alter this position.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) SWINTON B. DEAN,

Engineer and Manager.

In a letter dated December 28th, 1937, the Medical Officer of Health replied to Mr. Dean giving the facts, and stating the reasons why no progress had been made to that date.

Extracts from Minutes of
Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 19th January, 1938.

7. Birstall Welfare Centre.

The Medical Officer of Health submitted and read a letter which he had received from the Gas Engineer drawing attention to the danger of accident to the perambulators being parked on the narrow band between the weigh bridge and the weigh office and also submitted and read his reply thereto.

Resolved:—That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Councillor Hill be appointed to arrange for a suitable parking place for perambulators at the Birstall Welfare Centre.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 16th February, 1938.

22. Birstall Welfare Centre.

Referring to Minute No. 7 of the last meeting, the Sub-Committee reported that they had completed arrangements for a parking place for perambulators at the Birstall Welfare Centre.

The Sub-Committee decided that the work be carried out as soon as possible and on February 3rd Order Form 1110 was signed and despatched. At the present date, April, 1938, nothing has been done, but it is hoped the work will be completed in the near future as there is very real danger of an accident or even loss of life.

BATLEY MATERNITY and CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

VOLUNTARY WORKERS' SECTION.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year 1937.

RECEIPTS.						EXPENDITURE.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.		£	s.	d.		
Cash: 31.12.36:—						Stamps and Stationery	1	0	2		
In Co-op. Soc.	8	7	0			Biscuits, Buns, Tea and					
In hand	1	0	7			Sugar	5	9	9½		
		9	7	7		Milk	1	3	3		
Batley Centre—Teas	7	1	6			Gifts	2	9	4		
Birstall Centre—Teas	1	0	4			Sundries		14	9		
Proceeds of Garden Party	4	15	0			Balance: 31.12.37:—					
Co-operative Dividends		12	5			In Co-op. Soc. £10	4	7			
Co-operative Interest		5	2			In hand	£2	0	1½		
							12	4	8½		
	£23	2	0				£23	2	0		

(Signed) (Mrs.) EVA THOMPSON, Hon. Secretary.

(Mrs.) HILDA GRAYSON, Hon. Treasurer.

January, 1938.

The voluntary workers at the Infant Welfare Centres have been of great assistance for many years in helping with the non-professional duties. They are well known to the mothers, who recognise the value of their services.

3. (i) MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

Following the coming into force of the Midwives Act 1936, four municipal Midwives were appointed by the Batley Corporation in conjunction with the West Riding County Council.

Considerable time had to be given to the preparation of the scheme under which these midwives could best perform their duties having regard to the convenience of the public, the Corporation, and themselves. The division of the Borough into districts and the residences of the midwives in the most accessible parts of their areas together with many miscellaneous matters have ultimately been settled and the work is now being performed satisfactorily and harmoniously.

The scheme was drawn up by the Chief Clerk, Miss Lister, with whom the midwives are in constant touch whenever their duties need reference to the Public Health Department.

They have a consultation with Miss Lister every Monday morning on administrative matters concerning their work.

**SUMMARY OF WORK PERFORMED BY MUNICIPAL
MIDWIVES FROM COMMENCEMENT OF SCHEME TO
DECEMBER 31st, 1937.**

		Names of Midwives.				Total
		C. Drans- field.	E. A. Fearn- sides.	F. Kitson.	E. Robin- son.	
Date of commencement of duty.		12.11.37	13.9.37	13.9.37	30.11.37	
Patients booked prior to commencement of duty.		—	35*	29§	—	64
Patients booked.		5	37*	21§	4	67
Visits to Ante Natal cases.		58	184	75	33	350
Cases attended.	As Midwife	5	22	23	2	52
	As Maternity Nurse.	2	4	1	2	9
No. of visits to patients following delivery.		152	404	377	41	974
<u>Locum arrangement :—</u>						
Relief given to colleagues.	No. confinements.	2	2	—	1	5
	No. visits.	27	8	1	4	40
Relief received from colleagues.	No. confinements.	—	3	1	—	4
	No. visits.	4	13	2	1	20

* Of these patients, 5 were transferred to Midwife Robinson, and 20 to Midwife Dransfield.

§ Of these patients, 9 were transferred to Midwife Robinson.

**RESOLUTIONS DURING 1936 OF THE MATERNITY AND
CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE CONFIRMED BY THE
TOWN COUNCIL.**

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 15th January, 1936.

7. (a) Dental Facilities for Nursing Mothers and Children under five years.

(b) Provision of Dentures for necessitous cases.

As instructed in Minute No. 112 of the last meeting, the Medical Officer of Health submitted details of the County Council scale, and after further consideration of the whole matter it was

Resolved:—That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillor Miss Taylor and Mrs. Senior be appointed a Sub-Committee to consider all the information submitted by the Medical Officer of Health and to prepare and submit a written report to this Committee as to the operation in Batley of a scheme for providing the above Services together with particulars of such a scheme and an estimate of the annual cost thereof, on the assumption that the basis of income for “necessitous cases” was 6s. 6d. per head after deduction of rent.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 5th February, 1936, this was confirmed.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 18th March 1936.

26. (a) Dental Facilities for Nursing Mothers and Children under five years.

(b) Provision of Dentures for necessitous cases.

The Sub-Committee appointed in Minute No. 7 of 1936 submitted the following recommendations:—

1. In determining who may be described as “necessitous” the income scale at present in use by the M. and C. W. Committee shall be applied in the case of applicants for (a) Dental Facilities for Nursing Mothers and Children under 5 years of age, and (b) the Provision of Dentures.

2. That dental facilities in necessitous cases now provided for expectant mothers, be also available for nursing mothers who have attended the Ante Natal Clinic and are recommended for dental treatment by the Medical Officer of Health or his Assistant.
3. That dentures be provided in necessitous cases for nursing mothers as in (2) above.
4. That dental facilities for children under five years of age (under paragraph 1 above) be provided.
5. That arrangements be made with a local licentiate or licentiates in Dental Surgery.
6. It is not possible to forecast accurately the cost, but the Sub-Committee is of opinion £100 per annum may be taken as a commencing figure.

Resolved:—1. That the scheme, as now amended, be approved and forwarded to the Minister of Health.

Resolved:—2. That the question of making arrangements with local Dental Surgeons pursuant to paragraph 5 be postponed until after a further communication is received from the Ministry of Health.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 1st April, 1936, this was confirmed.

**RESOLUTIONS DURING 1937 OF THE
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE
CONFIRMED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL.**

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 17th March, 1937.

37. (a) Dental Facilities for Nursing Mothers, and
- (b) Provision of Dentures for Necessitous Cases.

Resolved:—That the Medical Officer of Health be instructed to confer with local Licentiates in Dental Surgery and submit a report as to the terms and conditions under which they will carry out the work as indicated in Minute No. 26 of 1936, together with an estimate of the annual cost of this service.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 7th April, 1937, this was confirmed.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 19th May, 1937.

66. (a) Dental Facilities for Nursing Mothers, and
(b) Provision of Dentures for Necessitous Cases.

The Medical Officer of Health submitted letters which he had received from local Licentiates in Dental Surgery (see Minute No. 37) and the same were referred to the Sub-Committee to consider and report to the next meeting of this Committee their recommendations thereon and as to the estimated annual cost of this proposed service.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 2nd June, 1937, this was confirmed.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 21st July, 1937.

86. Dental Facilities and Provision of Dentures for Expectant and Nursing Mothers.

Referring to Minutes Nos. 7 and 26 of 1936, and Nos. 37 and 66 of 1937, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman submitted the following recommendations:—

(1) That the original sum of £100 put in the estimates of this Committee for the current financial year with the addition of £25 in respect of the Birstall Ward represents the Committee's estimate for this service in respect of necessitous cases.

(2) That the terms based on Dental Benefit Regulations, 1936, submitted by Dr. Grundy and Mr. Lodge for dental treatment and provision of dentures for expectant and nursing mothers, who are necessitous cases, be accepted; the patients to have the right of choice of either of these dentists. Each case to be selected by the Medical Officer of Health and approved by the Committee before treatment is obtained.

Resolved:—That such recommendations be approved of and adopted.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 28th July, 1937, this was confirmed.

**RESOLUTIONS DURING 1937 OF THE
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE
CONFIRMED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL.**

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 17th February, 1936.

21. Maternal Mortality.

The Town Clerk submitted and read a letter, dated the 28th January last, which he had received from the Ministry of Health on the above subject consequent upon a recent visit paid by Medical Officers of the Ministry in this connexion.

The Medical Officer of Health reported upon such letter. Resolved:—That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Fox and Mrs. Senior be appointed with instructions to consider the Minister's enquiry on the lines now indicated, with power to make enquiries of Institutions in the district as to Institutional treatment which might be provided and submit for this Committee's consideration a report to be transmitted to the Minister of Health in reply to his enquiry.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 3rd March, 1937, this was confirmed.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 17th March, 1937.

Extract from Minute No. 34. Maternal Mortality.

The Sub-Committee appointed in Minute No. 21 reported that as instructed it had considered the suggestions set out in the Minister's letter and submitted the following recommendations with respect to the points raised by the Minister:—

(b), (d) and (f) That this Sub-Committee recommends that arrangements should, if possible, be made with the Governors of one or more of the following hospitals: Batley Hospital, County Hospital, Staincliffe, Leeds Maternity Hospital, to which may be referred cases of doubt and difficulty by private practitioners in the Borough, and by the Medical Officer of the Council's ante-natal clinic.

Resolved:—I. That such recommendation be approved.

Resolved:—II. That—in order to implement recommendations (b), (d) and (f) above—the Sub-Committee be instructed to make enquiries from the Committees of the Hospitals mentioned as to arrangements which might be made to enable cases of doubt and difficulty by private practitioners in the Borough, and by the Medical Officer of the Council's Ante Natal Clinic to be referred and report its recommendations with estimates of expenditure to this Committee.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 7th April, 1937, this was confirmed.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 16th June, 1937.

Extract from Minute No. 72. Maternal Mortality.

- (a) Consultative Ante Natal Clinic.
- (b) In-patient treatment of Ante Natal Patients.
- (c) Consultative Facilities for obstetric work.

The Sub-Committee appointed in Minute No. 21 submitted their recommendations in these matters.

Resolved:—That upon the recommendation of the Sub-Committee, and subject to the necessary provision being made by the Finance Committee, and to a contribution by the Ministry of Health towards the cost of the Schemes, the following arrangements be made:—

- (a) A Consultative Ante Natal Clinic be established at the Batley Hospital to which may be referred cases of doubt and difficulty by private practitioners in the Borough and by the Medical Officer of the Council's Ante Natal Clinic and that Mr. D. W. Currie, F.R.C.S., be appointed consultant at a fee of £4 4s. 0d. per session.
- (b) The Batley and District Hospital to provide the in-patient treatment of Ante Natal patients at a fee of £3 3s. 0d. per patient for each completed week and 9s. per day for part of a week excluding fees for operations, which would be charged according to the West Riding County Council's scale.

- (c) That Mr. D. W. Currie be appointed to act as Consultant for patients in the Borough requiring obstetric treatment at the fee of £3 3s. 0d. per patient visited by him in their homes.
- (d) In the case of reference by a private practitioner in (a) and (b) above, a notification in writing of each such case be submitted to the Medical Officer of Health in order that he may certify the accounts to be submitted to this Committee for payment.
- (f) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be instructed to prepare for submission to the Finance Committee an estimate of the annual expenditure to be incurred by these Schemes.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 7th July, 1937, this was **not** confirmed.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 21st July, 1937.

Extract from Minute No. 82. Maternal Mortality.

- (a) Consultative Ante Natal Clinic.
- (b) In-patient treatment of Ante Natal Patients.
- (c) Consultative Facilities for obstetric work.

The Committee gave further consideration to this matter.

Resolved:—That upon the recommendation of the Sub-Committee, and subject to the necessary provisions being made by the Finance Committee, and to a contribution by the Ministry of Health towards the cost of the Schemes, the following arrangements be made:—

- (a) A Consultative Ante Natal Clinic be established at the Batley Hospital to which may be referred cases of doubt and difficulty by private practitioners in the Borough and by the Medical Officer of the Council's Ante Natal Clinic and that Mr. D. W. Currie, F.R.C.S., be appointed consultant at a fee of £4 4s. 0d. per session.

- (b) The Batley and District Hospital to provide the in-patient treatment of Ante Natal patients at a fee of £3 3s. 0d. per patient for each completed week and 9s. per day for part of a week, excluding fees for operations, which would be charged according to the West Riding County Council's Scale.
- (c) That Mr. D. W. Currie be appointed to act as Consultant for patients in the Borough requiring obstetric treatment at the fee of £3 3s. 0d. per patient visited by him in their homes.
- (d) In the case of reference by a private practitioner in (a) and (b) above, a notification in writing of each such case be submitted to the Medical Officer of Health in order that he may certify the accounts to be submitted to this Committee for payment.
- (f) That the payment of Mr. Currie's fees and maintenance of patients in Batley Hospital be in every instance only in respect of necessitous cases, namely, a family whose total income does not exceed 6s. 6d. per head after deduction of rent.
- (g) That consultative Ante and Post Natal Clinics be held only through, and as arranged by, the Medical Officer of Health when the necessity arises, and that such Clinics be in respect of necessitous cases only.
- (h) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be instructed to prepare for submission to the Finance Committee an estimate of the annual expenditure to be incurred in carrying out these Schemes.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 28th July, 1937, this was confirmed.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 15th September, 1937
100. Maternal Mortality.

The Town Clerk submitted and read a letter which he had received from the Ministry of Health noting the proposals of this Committee on the above subject (vide Minute 82 of 21st July last), and approving the arrangements made by the Council for the provision of a service of Home-helps, but requesting the Council to re-consider their proposals regarding the arrangements made for consultative ante natal and post natal clinics, and suggesting that these clinics should be available for every woman, regardless of the amount of her income.

The Medical Officer of Health reported thereon.

Resolved:—That, having regard to local conditions, the scale embodied in Minute No. 82 be adhered to for the time being and the Ministry of Health notified accordingly.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 6th October, 1937, this was confirmed.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 17th Nov., 1937.
130. Maternal Mortality—Batley and District Hospital.

The Town Clerk submitted and read a letter which he had received from the Ministry of Health on the subject of the arrangements which have been made by this Committee with the Committee of the above Hospital for the in-patient accommodation for ante natal cases and stating that the Minister would be glad to be informed whether the Town Council had satisfied themselves that the arrangements at the Hospital now affords satisfactory accommodation for the maternity patients whom the Corporation refer for treatment.

The Medical Officer of Health submitted and read correspondence which he had had with a Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health thereon.

Resolved:—That having regard to the improvements which have been carried out at the Hospital comparatively recently and the revised administrative arrangements thereat, this Committee when dealing with this matter had no reason to doubt that the accommodation for the cases in question at the Batley and District Hospital was satisfactory.

132. Maternal Mortality—Necessitous Cases.

(a) Scale of Charges.

The Sub-Committee appointed in Minute No. 114 submitted the following recommendations:—

That the West Riding of Yorkshire County Council's scale of benefits in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare be adopted in this Borough for all services provided by this Committee, viz:—

No. of Persons per family.	* Income :—	
	Per family.	Per head. (does not exceed)
Man and wife	24/-	12/-
Man, wife and 1 child	29/-	9/8
Man, wife and 2 children	34/-	8/6
Man, wife and 3 children	39/-	7/9½
Man, wife and 4 children	44/-	7/4
Man, wife and 5 children	49/-	7/-
Man, wife and 6 children	54/-	6/9

* Income is calculated after deduction of actual rent paid.

Certain items of income to be included or partly included in the assessment are as follows :—

Description of income.	Amount to be brought into account.
Wages, salary, pensions and/or value of emoluments	Full Amount.
House property (in which tenant does not reside)	Net income derived.
Payments by lodgers (including relatives) for full or part board	Estimated reasonable profits at 4/- in £.
Proceeds of sub-letting :—	
(a) Unfurnished rooms	Net proceeds.
(b) Furnished rooms	One half.
All other income or means	Full Amount.

Special income to be disregarded :—

Wounds or disability pensions	First £1 per week.
Workmen's compensation weekly payment:	First 7/6.
National Health Insurance Benefit	First 7/6 per week.
Friendly Society sick benefit and trade union sick pay	First 5/- per week.

Resolved :—That such recommendation be approved of and adopted.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 1st December, 1937, these were confirmed.

(ii) **INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN** (apart from Poor Law) is not provided.

(iii) **HEALTH VISITORS.**

The arrangements made for the visiting of children between the ages of one and five years are as previously.

Number of visits paid during the year by all Health Visitors :

(a) To expectant mothers	First visits	....	....	296
	Total visits	....	....	888
(b) To children under 1 year of age	First visits	....	....	498
	Total visits	....	....	6,691
(c) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	Total visits	....	....	6,014

In addition to the foregoing the Health Visitors have made visits to cases of:—

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia	....	....	....	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	....	....	4
Pneumonia	....	....	....	61
Tuberculosis	....	....	....	105
Still Births	....	....	....	26
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	373
				<hr/>
				573
				<hr/>

The preceding figures do not include visits paid by the nurses in their capacity as School Nurses, which were 3,370. The grand total, therefore, of visits by the Health Visitors and School Nurses during 1937 was 17,536.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year :

(i) By children under 1 year of age	....	....	....	3,243
(ii) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	1,395

Total number of children who attended at the Centres for the first time during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :—

(i) Children under 1 year of age	....	....	....	299
(ii) Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	46

Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year, and who, at the end of the year, were :—

(i) Children under 1 year of age	....	....	....	....	278
(ii) Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	....				703

(iv) **CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.**

(a) Number of persons on the register who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year	2
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(b) Number of children on the Register :—

(i) At the end of the year	2
(ii) Who died during the year		None
(iii) On whom inquests were held during the year					None

(c) Number of Infant Protection Visitors at the end of the year who were :—

(i) Health Visitors	....	....	....	....	....	6
(ii) Female, other than Health Visitors	....					None
(iii) Male	....	....	....	....	....	None

No proceedings were taken during the year, no sanctions were necessary, neither were any orders sought under Sec. 67 of the Act of 1932.

(v) **ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.**

Much thought was given to the arrangements for the provision of Orthopædic treatment of scholars and children under school age. The Education Committee is responsible for the former and the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee for the latter. The drafting of the scheme was largely the work of the Chief Clerk (Miss Lister) whose able assistance is herewith acknowledged.

Difficulties have arisen in correspondence and concerning records of patients seen at the Orthopædic Clinic by the surgeon, who objects to fill in the record cards of patients and sign them. It has been explained that his signature or initials is essential. Correspondence must go through a third person, not direct to the surgeon.

Defect	New cases			Seen by Orthopaedic Surgeon	Total Attend- ances		Treatment recommended								Discharged				Remaining on Register
	Total	Educat.	M.C.W.		Massage etc., Clinic	Ortho- pædic	Observation	Massage & remedial exercises	No treatment	Hospital	Surgical Appliances	X-Ray	Plaster	Cured	Improved	No change	Ceased attending		
A.P.M. ...	9	8	1	9	43	25	2	3		4	1		1						9
Postural Defects ...	9	9		9	148	13		8										1	8
Torticollis ...	6	5	1	6	26	9		3	2	1				1				3	2
Pes Cavus ...	4	4		4	41	7	1	3	1		1							1	3
Talipes ...	4		4	4	2	4		3										3	1
Erb's Paralysis ...	1	1		1	3	1		1											1
Genu Valgum	1	1		1		3					1								1
Other Congenital Deformities	10	7	3	10	32	10	1	6			1	1			6				4
Infantile Hemiplegia	3	3		3	26	6	1	2										1	2
Bone & Joint Tubercle ...	2	2		2	16	6		1				1							2
Perthes Disease ...	1	1		1	2	5		1				1							1
Various ...	7	4	3	7	16	17	2	1	7						2			2	3
	57	45	12	57	355	106	7	32	10	5	4	3	1	1	8			11	37

RESOLUTIONS DURING 1937 OF THE MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE CONFIRMED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 17th Feb., 1937.

24. Orthopædic and Aural Treatment.

The Medical Officer of Health reported that the Sub-Committee appointed to deal with this matter had not yet met and after consideration of the whole question by the Committee it was

Resolved:—That in respect of the Orthopædic Treatment of Children under school age this Committee is prepared to pay its proportionate share of the expenses incurred by the Education Committee in the Orthopædic Treatment of children of school age (vide Minute No. 551 of Education Committee) and

due proportions of the expenses which will be incurred for Aural Treatment of children under school age when the Education Committee has completed its arrangements for such treatment for children of school age.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 3rd March, 1937, this was confirmed.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 21st July, 1937.

89. Aural Treatment.

Referring to Minute No. 24, the Medical Officer of Health reported that the Education Committee had not yet completed its arrangements for the treatment of children of school age.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 28th July, 1937, this was confirmed.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. 15th December, 1937.

146. (a) Dental Facilities for Children under School Age.
- (b) Treatment of Aural Defects in Children under School Age.

Resolved:—That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Fox and Mrs. Senior be appointed a Sub-Committee to consider all the information submitted by the Medical Officer of Health and to submit a written report to this Committee as to the operation in Batley of a Scheme for providing the above services together with particulars of such a scheme, and an estimate of the annual cost thereof for necessitous cases.

At the meeting of the Town Council on the 5th January, 1938, this was confirmed.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER SUPPLY.—Particulars of the Batley water supply have been given in previous annual reports. The chief source is from the town's own reservoirs situated about eighteen miles away in the Pennine hills. This water is excellent in every respect, both for domestic and trade purposes. Further information may be obtained from a perusal of the evidence, which is in print, given in both Houses of Parliament in 1921 in connection with the Bill promoted by the Batley Corporation which became the Batley Corporation Act, 1921.

The West Riding County Council opposed the Bill, contending that Batley water was plumbo solvent and therefore should be treated with lime because it was derived from gathering grounds which were highly impregnated with peat. As Medical Officer of Health, I maintained this was not correct. Whilst some water in the reservoirs undoubtedly comes from peaty upland surfaces the greater supply is from springs which communicate with the reservoirs.

The Ministry of Health declined to give a decision, leaving the matter to be decided by Parliament.

I advised the Corporation to obtain the opinion of Sir Alexander Houston (now deceased), of the Metropolitan Water Board, at that time generally regarded as the greatest authority on the subject in this country.

Sir Alexander expressed in the House of Lords his entire agreement with my evidence.

As a result the Corporation was victorious. Had the decision been adverse it would have meant the addition of two grains of lime to every gallon of water distributed in Batley from its own reservoirs.

Mr. Hill, the Consulting Water Engineer called in by the Corporation to supervise the construction of the new reservoir, when asked the probable cost of adding this lime, replied that the cost to the Corporation of the lime and wages alone would be more than one thousand pounds annually. In addition the

amount of extra soap used by millowners in the course of trade, and of householders for domestic purposes, could not be estimated.

I have ventured to mention these facts at the risk of being charged with egotism. The real reasons are (1) for purposes of record, as this is my last annual report, (2) it is frequently said, "Everything depends upon £ s. d. in Batley," therefore it is a source of satisfaction to me to know that I have been the means of saving the town in this instance more money annually than I have ever received from it. It will of course be said "He only did his duty" which I admit is correct.

The Urban District of Birstall was absorbed into the Borough of Batley of which it became part on April 1st, 1937. The water supply of what is now known as the Birstall Ward has been from the Bradford Corporation reservoirs for many years and still continues. Its quality is excellent for domestic and trade purposes, as would be expected.

The water supplied to the Soothill Ward of Batley comes from the Halifax Corporation reservoirs. The Soothill Ward is that portion of the area governed by the late Soothill Upper Urban District Council which was absorbed into the Borough of Batley in 1909. The water supply to-day is from the same origin as before 1909.

From time to time the Medical Officer of Health has pointed out to the Health Committee the possible danger to health through the consumption of this water by persons living in the Soothill Ward or elsewhere. Reference may be made to previous annual reports.

During 1937 samples of Batley water were submitted to Dr. Sutherland at the West Riding County Council Laboratory, Wakefield, for bacteriological examination, with the following results:—

	BATLEY. HALIFAX. BRADFORD		
Satisfactory	4	16	2
Unsatisfactory	1	6	—
	—	—	—
	5	22	2
	==	==	==

REPORTS ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF:—

HALIFAX WATER (No. 1) taken from 13 inch diameter main at Brighthouse; received on the 4th January, 1937.

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 2 days at 37°C. = 28 per ml. of water. Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 3 days at 22°C. = 33 per ml. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

25 in 100 ml. of water.

The examination shows that this water is unsatisfactory.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

8th January, 1937.

HALIFAX WATER No. 2 taken from a main—outlet from Foxroyd Reservoir, received on the 4th January, 1937.

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 2 days at 37°C. = 25 per ml. of water. Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 3 days at 22°C. = 40 per ml. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

25 in 100 ml. of water.

The examination shows that this water is unsatisfactory.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

8th January, 1937.

HALIFAX WATER collected from trunk main at the " Robin Hood " Inn, Brighthouse ; received on the 24th May, 1937.

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 2 days at 37°C. = 50 per ml. of water. Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 3 days at 22°C. = 412 per ml. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

25 in 100 ml. of water.

The examination shows that this water is unsatisfactory.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

31st May, 1937.

HALIFAX WATER from " Ramleh," Soothill Lane, Batley (direct from main) received on the 9th July, 1937.

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 2 days at 37°C. = 7,420 per ml. of water. Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 3 days at 22°C. = 855 per ml. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

5 in 100 ml. of water.

The examination shows that this water is of doubtful purity.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

13th July, 1937.

HALIFAX WATER collected from Foxroyd Reservoir, Thornhill, Dewsbury, received on the 7th October, 1937.

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 2 days at 37°C . = 220 per ml. of water. Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 3 days at 22°C . = 201 per ml. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

70 in 100 ml. of water.

The examination shows that this water is unsatisfactory according to the Ministry of Health's standard.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

13th October, 1937.

HALIFAX WATER collected from Foxroyd Reservoir, Thornhill, Dewsbury, received on the 18th October, 1937.

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 2 days at 37°C = 312 per ml. of water. Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 3 days at 22°C . = 734 per ml. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

8 in 100 ml. of water.

The examination shows that this water is of doubtful purity according to the Ministry of Health's standard.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

25th October, 1937.

BATLEY WATER collected from Messrs. W. Watson & Son, Howard Street, Batley, received on the 29th November, 1937.

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 2 days at 37°C. = 17 per ml. of water. Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 3 days at 22°C. = 160 per ml. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

13 in 100 ml. of water.

The examination shows that this water is unsatisfactory according to the standard recommended by the Ministry of Health.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

6th December, 1937.

Three chemical examinations of the three water supplies were made by the Public Analyst, and one by an independent analyst, the result being satisfactory in each instance.

The following copies of letters, copies of minutes, and extract from the Press, are self explanatory. They shew the position up to April, 1938. It is interesting to note that whilst it is a statutory duty of every water undertaker to supply pure water, the Halifax Corporation is to be paid an additional sum of money than in the past, for performing this duty. It will be observed that whilst every Medical Officer of Health is responsible for advising the local authority on the purity or otherwise of the water supplied to his area and, in view of recent events elsewhere, would be the first person to be attacked should an outbreak of water borne infectious disease occur, the Medical Officer of Health of Batley was not invited to be present at any of the meetings hereafter described, although they were of major importance.

20th November, 1937.

Mr. H. P. JOYCE,
Water Engineer,
Woodwell,
Batley.

Dear Mr. Joyce,

As you are aware, we have had during recent years a number of conversations about the unsatisfactory state—from the Public Health standpoint—of the water supplied by the Halifax Corporation to the Batley Corporation. I also had similar conversations with your predecessor, the late Mr. Duckworth.

I have, from time to time during the same period, reported to the Batley Public Health Committee the result of the bacteriological examinations of samples of this particular Halifax water (which were taken by you for submission to the West Riding bacteriologist), and laid stress upon the possible danger of disease being conveyed by it to those persons who may drink it.

On Wednesday last, I again warned the Batley Public Health Committee, at its meeting, that there is, in my opinion, undoubted danger of an outbreak of disease amongst those residents of Batley who are supplied with this water, unless the pollution ceases forthwith.

I have been seriously concerned about this matter for a long time—see page 20 of my Annual Report for 1936—and I repeat what I have said in the past.

I am sending you this letter so that you may bring it to the notice of the Batley Waterworks Committee, should you think fit.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) G. H. PEARCE,

Medical Officer of Health.

24th November, 1937.

T. E. CRAIK, Esq.,
Town Clerk,
Batley.

Dear Mr. Craik,

As you are aware, I have from time to time drawn the attention of the Batley Public Health Committee to the unsatisfactory condition of the water supplied by the Halifax Corporation to the Batley Corporation, as revealed by bacteriological examination.

In my opinion, this state of affairs is serious because there is definite danger to the health of those persons who may drink this polluted water.

The fact that sometimes the bacteriologist's certificates are favourable does not remove the danger.

I am sending you this letter so that you may take such action as, in the circumstances, you may consider desirable.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) G. H. PEARCE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Waterworks Committee. 9th December, 1937.

121. Water Supply to Soothill.

The Town Clerk submitted and read letter of the 24th ultimo from the Medical Officer of Health drawing attention to the reports which he has from time to time submitted to the Public Health Committee respecting the unsatisfactory condition of the water supplied by the Halifax Corporation to this Corporation as revealed by bacteriological examination.

The Town Clerk also reported that he had already forwarded a copy of the Medical Officer of Health's letter to the Clerk to the Batley and Dewsbury Joint Water Committee.

Resolved:—That the action of the Town Clerk be approved and that the representatives on the Joint Committee press for adequate steps to be taken to secure the purity of this supply.

Extract from the "Batley Reporter," January 8th, 1938.

BATLEY COUNCIL.

CONDITION OF SOOTHILL WATER SUPPLY.

"PERFECTLY PURE" ASSURANCE.

WATERWORKS COMMITTEE.

A letter was read from the Medical Officer of Health, drawing attention to the reports which he had from time to time submitted to the Public Health Committee respecting the unsatisfactory condition of the water supplied to Soothill by the Halifax Corporation as revealed by bacteriological examination. The action of the Town Clerk in forwarding a copy of the letter to the clerk to the Batley and Dewsbury Joint Water Committee was approved, and the representatives on the Joint Committee were instructed to press for adequate steps to be taken to secure the purity of this supply.

SOOTHILL WATER SUPPLY.

Sir Ben Turner, moving these minutes, said that as regards water supply, the town was now 20 days better off than a month ago, and they were "going on all right." They were gaining in storage at the reservoirs. Referring to the supply to Soothill, Sir Ben said samples had been taken, and there was one sample of Halifax water not satisfactory. Since then, they had had repeated examinations of the water, and the supply was now perfectly pure. Sir Ben added that they were keeping a strict eye upon Halifax water.

Alderman Milnes, in seconding, supported what Sir Ben had said. He remarked that both their engineer and the Dewsbury engineer were paying all the attention they could to Halifax water, and they were also paying attention to their own water supply. They did not want to have anything arising which would be detrimental to the ratepayers, and they wanted to keep their house in order.

Alderman Schofield said he had one or two questions to ask. They were: Had any reply been received from the Batley and Dewsbury Joint Committee? What was the nature of the reply? And could he assure the Soothill ratepayers that the

water was now satisfactory? He wanted to have that assurance, because the water question in Soothill was creating certain fears, more so since the epidemic that had been prevailing in the South of England. He had had in mind that the Medical Officer in the past had drawn attention to the unsatisfactory state of water in Soothill and knowing the uncertainty in certain people's minds, he would like assurance he asked for.

Sir Ben said that so far as one could say as a layman, the water was perfectly pure now, and special attention was being given to it. At the first sign of any danger the authorities would be communicated with at once. The water engineer had had instructions to watch it very carefully indeed, and he hoped that nothing further would occur in connection with the matter.

The minutes were approved.

Waterworks Committee. 13th January, 1938.

Extract from Minute 5—Batley and Dewsbury Joint Water Committee.

Condition of Halifax Water.

The Clerk submitted a letter he had received from the Town Clerk of Batley dated the 25th November, 1937, enclosing copy of a letter from the Medical Officer of Health of Batley dated the 24th November, 1937, drawing attention to the unsatisfactory condition of the water supplied by the Halifax Corporation as revealed by bacteriological examination. The joint Engineers submitted analyses in respect of samples of water numbered 540, 541, 609 and 610, all of which were free from *B. coli*.

Resolved:—That the Joint Engineers be requested to ascertain from the Halifax Corporation whether such Corporation is prepared to chlorinate the water supplied to the two Corporations and if the Halifax Corporation is so prepared and the terms for chlorination are, in the opinion of the Joint Engineers, reasonable, they be and are hereby authorised to arrange for the water supplied to the two Corporations to be chlorinated as early as conveniently possible.

9th February, 1938.

Dear Mr. Joyce,

Soothill Ward.

Water Supply from Halifax.

I am obliged by your letter dated 7th February, 1938, together with copies of two bacteriological certificates signed by Dr. Sutherland, numbered 57 and 60, and dated 25th January, 1938.

Once more I repeat that, in my opinion, the water supplied to the Soothill Ward is a danger to the health of those persons who drink it.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) G. H. PEARCE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Waterworks Committee. 10th February, 1938.

Extract from Minute 19—Batley and Dewsbury Joint Water Committee.

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the meeting of the 21st December, 1937, were read, approved and signed.

SUGGESTED CHLORINATION OF HALIFAX WATER.

Resolved:—(a) That for the time being the suggested chlorination of the water supplied by the Halifax Corporation be not proceeded with.

(b) That the principle of the Halifax water being filtered be approved of.

(c) That the Halifax Corporation be approached with a view to ascertaining the terms upon which that Corporation is prepared to supply filtered water, and that Alderman Sir Ben Turner and Councillor P. G. Lyles, together with the officials of the Joint Committee be authorised to interview the Halifax Corporation in regard thereto.

21st February, 1938.

Dear Mr. Joyce.

Thanks for the copies of bacteriological examinations of water, signed by Dr. Sutherland, numbered 180, 181, 182 and 183, all dated February 17th, 1938.

I note that Nos. 180 and 183 are Halifax supply samples.

On Wednesday last, February 16th, at the meeting of the Public Health Committee, I once again stated to the Committee that, in my opinion, the Halifax water, as at present supplied to the Soothill Ward of Batley, is a danger to the health of those inhabitants who drink it.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) G. H. PEARCE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Waterworks Committee. 10th March, 1938.

30. Water Analyses.

The Water Engineer submitted and reported upon four Reports Nos. 180, 181, 182 and 183—on the bacteriological examination of water taken at Brighouse, Batley and Birstall which showed that the water samples were satisfactory according to the Ministry of Health Standard.

31. Batley and Dewsbury Joint Water Committee.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the meeting of the 21st January, 1938, were read, approved and signed.

FILTRATION OF HALIFAX WATER.

The delegates appointed by the Committee to interview representatives of the Halifax Corporation submitted the following report of their interview:—

Meeting between representatives of the Batley, Dewsbury, and Halifax Corporation regarding the suggestion to take filtered water from the Halifax Corporation:

Councillor Lyles, on behalf of the Batley and Dewsbury Corporations, pointed out that recent correspondence from the Clerk of the Joint Committee to the Town Clerk of Halifax, with copies of analyses of samples of water therewith, had shown that the water supplied by the Halifax Corporation to the Corporations of Batley and Dewsbury was unsatisfactory from several points of view, and indicated that the two Corporations were of opinion that the water supplied by Halifax should be filtered and that, in view of the presence of *B. coli* in the water it appeared, on the face of it, that the Halifax Corporation should undertake the cost of filtration.

On this point the Town Clerk of Halifax stated that this matter had been raised on several occasions in the past and that the Halifax Corporation had taken the Opinion of Counsel and that such Opinion was to the effect that the Dewsbury and Batley Corporations, as successors to the Savile Estate, were entitled only to the water as it was collected at the reservoirs without treatment or filtration of any kind; and that the Halifax Corporation were quite prepared to contest the matter in the Law Courts if the two Corporations persisted in their point of view.

Eventually, after discussion, the Halifax Corporation representatives intimated that they were prepared to recommend their Council to arrange for the water supplied to the two Corporations to be treated and filtered, subject to the following terms and conditions:—

1. In respect of the period from the date of the commencement of the supply of filtered water to 1940, the price to be charged to be 1½d. per thousand gallons in respect of water taken by the two Corporations.
2. After 1940, the cost of filtration (at present approximately 1½d. per thousand gallons) would be ascertained every third year and the actual cost of providing filtered water as so ascertained would be required to be paid, with the addition of ¼d. per thousand gallons, provided, however, that for a period of 25 years from the date of commencement of the supply of filtered water, the price to be charged therefor would be not less than 1d. per thousand gallons, even if the actual ascertained cost referred to was as low as ¼d. or ½d. per thousand gallons.

3. After the expiration of the said period of 25 years the price to be charged would be the actual price as ascertained every third year plus $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per thousand gallons.

4. The Halifax Corporation could not agree to any provision for the termination of the Agreement to take filtered water, once the two Corporations had commenced to take filtered water, but it was understood that if for any reason there was any cessation or suspension of the taking of water by the two Corporations from the Halifax Corporation, then any agreement to pay additional charges for filtered water would also either cease or be suspended accordingly.

5. Any agreement arrived at between the three Corporations to be completed and sealed.

Resolved:—That subject to the undermentioned amendments such report be approved, and that it be a recommendation to the two Corporations to enter into an Agreement with the Halifax Corporation on the terms and conditions specified:—

1. That the cost of filtered water shall include any expenses which the Halifax Corporation may incur in respect of any connections or works which may be necessary to deliver filtered water into the main belonging to the two Corporations.

2. That it be an instruction to the Town Clerks' of Batley and Dewsbury when settling the proposed draft Agreement with the Halifax Corporation to ensure that any reference to "filtration" or "filtered water" shall be extended to "filtration and treatment" and "filtered and treated water."

Waterworks Committee. 14th April, 1938.

39. Batley and Dewsbury Joint Water Committee.

Referring to Minute 31, the Town Clerk reported that the Waterworks Engineer of the Halifax Corporation had been instructed to proceed with the necessary works in order that the supply of filtered water could be taken as soon as possible.

42. Ministry of Health Circular 1684—Water Supplies.

The Town Clerk submitted and explained the above Circular Letter received from the Ministry of Health reminding Water Undertakers—in the light of recent experience—of the serious responsibility which rests upon them in relation to the purity of the public water supplies which they control and the same was noted.

The Town Clerk also submitted and read letter from the Water Engineer of the 16th ultimo, and from which it was noted that in his opinion the measures outlined in Minute No. 6 of the Waterworks Committee, for the taking of water analyses in conjunction with the rigid supervision of the catchment area and works generally of the undertaking, which are being taken—apart from any recommendations which the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough may from time to time suggest—are adequate protection to ensure that the water supply shall comply in regard to purity with the high standard demanded by the Ministry of Health.

Resolved:—That this Committee concurs in the opinion of the Water Engineer above expressed.

Note by the Medical Officer of Health. It is suggested the expression “ high standard ” would be more accurate if it read “ standard.”

As regards supplies from sources other than public, action was taken in two instances as follows:—

- (a) Spring water used in a dairy at a farm. On bacteriological examination the water was reported upon as unsatisfactory and exposed to serious and possibly dangerous pollution. This unsatisfactory supply was disconnected and a piped supply from the town's mains laid on in lieu thereof; and
- (b) Spring on land used by sheep and horses forming only water supply to four caravans. On bacteriological examination the water was reported upon as unsatisfactory according to the Ministry of Health's standard. The lessor, who also owns the land, has undertaken either not to renew the current lease for the caravans, or provide a piped supply from the town's mains.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The Borough Surveyor (Mr. H. L. Hall) has supplied the following information:

“Sewage Works. During the last twelve months the usual practice of cleaning of Contact Beds, etc., has been proceeded with in a normal way.”

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.—The West Riding of Yorkshire Rivers Board is the authority which exercises supervision over the Batley beck. It is polluted by dye water, trade waste, etc. During heavy rain storms it occasionally overflows its banks, causing considerable flooding of houses and streets. The latter has engaged the attention of the Corporation for several years and is still under consideration.

3 (i) **CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, 1937.****By the Senior Sanitary Inspector (Mr. H. Hornby).****Water-Closets.**

The Borough—1936	8,577
By inclusion of Birstall	1,433
Additional; to existing buildings	61
Additional; to new buildings	210
Additional; by conversions	18
	<hr/> 10,299
Less number abolished. (Slum clearance, etc.)	41
Total—1937	<hr/> 10,258 <hr/>

Trough Closets.

The Borough—1936	196
Less number abolished or converted	<hr/> 14
Total—1937	<hr/> 182 <hr/>

Slop Water Closets.

The Borough—1936	1
By inclusion of Birstall	<hr/> 20
Total—1937	<hr/> 21 <hr/>

Pail Closets.

The Borough—1936	10
By inclusion of Birstall	<hr/> 8
Less number abolished or converted	<hr/> 18
Total—1937	<hr/> 12 <hr/>

Privy Closets.

The Borough—1936	1
By inclusion of Birstall (190 structures)	<hr/> 289
Less number abolished or converted	<hr/> 290
	<hr/> 5
	<hr/> 285 <hr/>

Total—1937. Closets of all types	<hr/> 10,758 <hr/>
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The 290 privy closets, all but one in Birstall Ward, is perhaps the least satisfactory feature about the foregoing statement. These are in most cases very insanitary and the matter of their conversion to water closets promises to confront the local authority with no small problem. This will be clear when it is mentioned that the difficulty is by no means limited to questions of sewerage and sewage disposal—which are often complex of themselves—but also intimately concerns the condition of houses as a whole in relation to the standards of fitness laid down by the Housing Acts. Thus, when the cost of rectifying disrepair and sanitary defects at more or less aged buildings is added to that of converting privies, it will often be found that a house cannot be rendered fit for human habitation at a reasonable expense, and therefore the question whether or not to make a Demolition Order becomes the real issue, not the mere conversion of obsolete sanitary accommodation. Notwithstanding its difficulty the problem ought, however, to be faced, since not only are these privies prejudicial to health, but they impose an expense for cleansing upon the local authority out of all proportion to what is yielded in rates by the premises concerned.

As regards the 196 trough closets referred to, the policy of the Public Health Department is to secure their conversion to wash-down pedestal water closets on the grounds that they are obsolete according to modern standards and are a source of unnecessary expense to the rates in the labour required to flush them.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.—This Section is by the Senior Sanitary Inspector (Mr. H. Hornby).

The arrangements for the collection and disposal of house and trade refuse during 1937 were similar to those in force during the previous year, subject to the extension of the district following the inclusion of Birstall in the Borough, which took place on the 1st April, 1937. As Birstall's refuse collection was already being done by private contract, the arrangements for the work in the extended Borough thus became five private contracts, i.e. approximately one for each ward, excepting 445 houses and premises which continued to be dealt with by direct labour.

The table showing costs for the year ended 31st March, 1937, of which a copy is appended to this section, shows that the net cost of collection and disposal of house and trade refuse for the Borough, excluding Birstall, was £4,309 as against £4,513 for the previous year, thus resulting in a decreased expenditure of £204, of which £167 was saved on collection and £37 on disposal. Considering the fact that at the end of the year, two tips were awaiting top-soiling and completion, the expenditure ultimately to be met for these works renders the foregoing saving more apparent than real.

The following table gives particulars of the contracts as they stood on the 31st December, 1937:—

Contract No.	Ward	Estimated No. of houses and premises	Estimated Annual Yield, Tons	Period of Contract		Annual costs				Rate per ton 1937	Remarks
				Commencement	Termination	1937	1936	1935	Increase or Decrease since 1935		
1	West	2,550	2,310	6/4/35	5/4/38	£737/12	£633/12	* £618	+ £119/12	6/4	* Includes increase of £2 per week granted as from 1/4/37
2	Soothill	1,342	1,209	10/7/35	9/7/38	£379/12	£364	£364	+ £15/12	6/3	
3	North	3,270	2,961	3/1/35	2/1/38	£821/12	£821/12	£806	+ £15/12	5/6	
4	East	2,568	2,325	1/7/37	30/6/40	£508	£624	—	— £26	5/1	
5	Birstall	2,322	2,032	1/6/36	31/5/39	£728	—	—	—	7/3	
	TOTALS	12,052	10,837	—	—	£3264/16	—	—	—	—	

At the end of the year under review approximately 97 per cent. of the total yield of house and trade refuse in the Borough was being collected by the private contracts detailed in the foregoing table, the remaining 3 per cent. being dealt with by direct labour.

It will be noted that the costs of the contracts for West, Soothill, and North Wards increased in the aggregate by £150 16s. since 1935, whilst for East Ward there was a decrease of £26.

The remarks as to the efficiency of this system of private contracts which appeared on pages 35 to 37 of the Annual Report for 1936 still apply with equal force.

Controlled-tipping continued to be the primary means of refuse disposal in the Borough during 1937, the destructor works having been used only to burn by natural draught small quantities of matter unsuitable for tipping, diseased meat, etc.

The controlled-tips used during the year were Soothill Wood Colliery Tip for East, West, and Soothill Wards, Howden Clough Tip for North Ward, and White Lee Tip for Birstall. The tip situate in Geldard Road, Birstall, was closed immediately this area came into the Borough, since it was found to be the subject of complaints by adjoining occupiers.

The staff and forms of transport engaged respectively upon collection and disposal were as follows:—

Collection:—

(a) By Private Contract;

Mechanical vehicles.	6 Regular.	1 Part time.
Horse „	—	1 „ „
Men (including drivers)	13 Regular.	5 „ „

(b) By Direct Labour;

Horse vehicle.	1 Regular.
Men (including driver)	2 „

Disposal:—

By Direct Labour;

Tipmen (including one part-time foreman)	8 Regular.	1 Part time.
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**AUTHORITY.—BOROUGH OF BATLEY.
CLEANSING SERVICE.**

House and Trade Refuse.

Table showing Costs for the Year ending 31st March, 1937.

Item (1)	Particulars. (2)	Collection		Disposal		Collection & Disposal	
		(A) including } loan (B) excluding } charges depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay, and rents.		(A) including } loan (B) excluding } charges depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay, and rents.		(A) including } loan (B) excluding } charges depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay, and rents.	
		(A) (3)	(B) (4)	(A) (5)	(B) (6)	(A) (7)	(B) (8)
	Revenue Account.	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	Gross Expenditure	3001	3001	1366	1319	4367	4320
2	Gross Income	15	15	43	43	58	58
3	Net Cost	2986	2986	1323	1276	4309	4262
	Unit Costs.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
4	Gross expenditure, per ton	6 10.6	6 10.6	3 1.6	3 0.3	10 0.2	9 10.9
5	Gross income, per ton	0.4	0.4	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.6
6	Net cost, per ton	6 10.2	6 10.2	3 0.4	2 11.1	9 10.6	9 9.3
7	Net cost, per 1,000 population	£ 89.5	£ 89.5	£ 39.7	£ 38.3	£ 129.2	£ 127.8
8	Net cost, per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected	283.8	283.8	125.7	121.3	409.5	405.1

- 9 Total refuse collected (in tons) (A., E., or T.) 8,716(E)
- 10 Population; Middle of 1936—according to the
Registrar-General's estimate 33,350
- 11 Area (Statute acres)—Land and inland water 3,227
- 12 Weight—in cwts.) per 1,000 population per
day (365 days to year) 14.32
- 13 Number of houses and premises 10,522
- 14 Method of Collection:—

	No. of Vehicles.	Percentage of refuse collected.
Horse vehicles	1	9%
Mechanical vehicles	5	91%
Container system (combination of mechanical and horse vehicles)	Nil.	Nil.

Note:—The above particulars, being for the year ended 31st March, 1937, have no reference to Birstall.

(iii) **SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.****WORK OF SANITARY INSPECTORS UNDER ARTICLE 27
OF THE SANITARY OFFICERS (OUTSIDE LONDON)
REGULATIONS, 1935.**

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT: YEAR 1937.

Total number of inspections and re-inspections made 11,830

Details.	Primary.		Re-inspections.
	Day.	Evening.	
Housing (Consolidated) Regs.	358	—	1819
Shops Act, 1934	11	—	9
Re sanitary defects	985	10	3021
Infectious Diseases	159	31	30
Verminous and dirty houses	337	—	123
Overcrowding	46	—	12
Re water supply	7	—	3
Common Lodging Houses	3	—	2
Factories	18	—	9
Workshops	184	—	42
Workplaces	4	—	—
Bakehouses	49	—	6
Drains inspected	140	—	15
Drains tested	69	—	—
Smoke Observations	225	—	—
Factories (Smoke Nuisance)	21	—	—
Offensive Trades	4	—	—
Stables	8	—	11
Swine, fowls and other animals	15	—	17
Tents, Vans and Sheds	17	—	12
Schools	2	—	3
Tips and plots of waste ground	70	10	4
Sewers, etc.	3	—	—
Rat infested premises	27	—	18
Miscellaneous Visits	1517	18	10
Slaughterhouses	1133	2	—
Meat Shops	142	62	—
Provision and other food shops	30	—	—
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	97	—	—
Ice Cream Premises	10	—	—
Dairies and Milk Shops	200	—	—
Cowsheds	347	—	—
Markets	42	7	—
Samples:—			
Milk—chemical examination	130	—	—
Other foods—chemical exam.	25	—	—
Rag flock—chemical exam.	8	—	—
Milk—bacteriological exam.	59	—	—
Water—bacteriological exam.	22	—	—
Totals	6524	140	5166

NOTE.—The above figures are exclusive of 2,009 houses “detailed-surveyed” by enumerators, for purposes of the Overcrowding Survey carried out by the Town Council pursuant to the provisions of the Housing Acts.

Informal Notices served	....	....	....	....	1870
Informal Notices complied with	....	....	....	....	1086
Statutory Notices served	....	....	....	....	189
Statutory Notices complied with	....	....	....	....	179
Certificates as to “Permitted Numbers” issued					328
					(for 4,203 houses).
Number of complaints received	....	....	....	....	219

(iv) **SHOPS.**

During the year 11 retail shops were dealt with under Section 10, Shop Acts, 1934.

The defects calling for attention related to lighting, ventilation, sanitary accommodation, maintenance repairs and general cleanliness.

In addition to various requirements asked for verbally, 6 written notices were served and the works required by 8 notices (including two served during the previous year) were carried out.

The number of retail shops, as compared with the size and population of the Borough, is below the average, due, no doubt, to the fact that the shopping centres of the larger neighbouring towns are readily available to the public of Batley.

A very large majority of the retail shops in Batley employ, if any, not more than one or two assistants.

(v) **SMOKE ABATEMENT. (Mr. Hornby).**

The general position in relation to smoke abatement was stated at length in the Annual Reports for 1928 to 1934; and also on pages 44 to 46 of the Annual Report for 1936.

The number of observations taken was 225 as against 208 for the previous year. Engineers and firemen were interviewed on 21 occasions and 21 notices were forwarded to offending firms.

Note by Medical Officer of Health.—During recent years I have from time to time drawn attention to the advantage which might be derived if the lectures on smoke abatement at the Technical College, Batley, were delivered by Mr. Hornby, who holds the Smoke Inspector’s certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, is a capable and interesting lecturer, and what is most important, has an intimate knowledge of the conditions existing in connection with all the mill chimneys in Batley. He also is personally acquainted with most of the firers. My suggestions have not received consideration, but I venture to again draw attention to them.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS, 1937.

Chimney.	No. of Observations.	Total Minutes of Observations.	Av. Minutes of dense black smoke calculated upon observa- tions taken.	Av. Minutes of dense (other than black) smoke calculated upon observa- tions taken.
Albion Mill Co., Bradford Road	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Albion Oil Works, Bradford Rd. W.	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Alexandra Mill	4	120	1.37	Nil.
Anchor Mill	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Batley Corporation :—				
Destructor Works	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Gas Works, Grange Road	5	130	.3	Nil.
Gas Works, Birstall	1	30	Nil.	6
Public Baths	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Batley Hygienic Laundry	2	60	Nil.	1.25
Birstall and District Steam Laundry	3	90	1.41	Nil.
Birstall Dyeworks	3	90	1.41	.5
Biscuit Works, Wellington Street....	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Bottoms Mill (Tall Chimney)	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Bottoms Mill (Low Chimney)	1	30	Nil.	.25
Brier Mill, Birstall	7	210	.78	.10
Brights Mill	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Blakeridge Mill	6	180	.08	.08
Branch Road Mill	8	240	.03	.01
Brookroyd Mill	10	300	1.2	.125
Carlinghow Mill	8	240	Nil.	Nil.
Carr Dye Works, Birstall	8	240	4.56	Nil.
Chapel Fold Mill, Staincliffe	7	210	2.39	Nil.
Cheapside Mill	3	90	.166	Nil.
Clerk Green Mill	2	60	3	Nil.
College Mill, Birstall	6	180	1.1	Nil.
Dock Ing Mills	4	120	1.25	Nil.
Foxson's Mill, Staincliffe	6	180	Nil.	Nil.
Garforth's Foundry	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Grange Road Engineering Works				
(Messrs. A. J. Riley & Son, Ltd.)	1	30	Nil.	8
Greenhill Dyeworks, Grange Road....	6	150	.95	.41
Grove Mills, Birstall	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Healey Lane Mill	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Hick Lane Mill	3	90	.66	Nil.
Highfield Mill, Staincliffe	4	120	Nil.	Nil.
Little Orme Mill	6	180	.83	Nil.
Livingstone Mill	3	90	3	Nil.
Lady Ann Mill	6	180	1.08	.58
New Ing Mill	2	60	3	Nil.
Oakwell Soap Works, Birstall	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Park Lane Mill	8	240	1.12	.10
Printworks, Bradford Road W.	9	270	1.66	.53
Prospect Mills, Birstall	4	120	.38	Nil.
Providence Mill	9	270	1.4	Nil.

Chimney.	No. of Observations.	Total Minutes of Observations.	Av. Minutes of dense black smoke calculated upon observa- tions taken.	Av. Minutes of dense (other than black) smoke calculated upon observa- tions taken.
Ridings Mill, White Lee	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Savile Mill	3	90	2	Nil.
Spring Mill, Carlinghow	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Spring Mill, Staincliffe	5	150	.6	.05
Springfield Mill	2	60	1.25	Nil.
Staincliffe Low Mill	6	180	.25	Nil.
Smithies Mill, Birstall	6	180	.41	.16
Textile Machinery Works	6	180	Nil.	Nil.
Victoria Mill, Batley Carr	4	120	3.5	Nil.
Victoria Mill, Carlinghow	3	90	.66	Nil.
Victoria Oil Works	3	90	2.41	Nil.
Wheatcroft Mill	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
William Porritt & Son, Ltd., Birstall	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Yorkshire Co-operative Laundry Federation Ltd.	4	120	1.06	Nil.
Total	225			

(vi.) **SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS. (Mr. Hornby).**

There is one Public Baths in the Borough, but no privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public.

The Public Baths referred to are situate in Cambridge Street Batley, and were opened to the Public in 1893. The total cost of the buildings was £9,180 and various extensions and improvements have been carried out from time to time since erection.

The accommodation available to the public comprises:—

- (a) Two swimming baths, one measuring 21 yds. × 9 yds., and the other 28 yds. × 11 yds., the water in both being 6 ft. deep at the deep end and 3 ft. deep at the shallow end. The treatment of the water is continuous and consists of filtration, aeration, chlorination, and warming, the manufacturers of the filtration plant being The "Turn-over" Filter Co., Ltd., Belfast. The number of bathers during 1937 was approximately 60,000, of which 26,383 were scholars.
- (b) Eighteen slipper baths.
- (c) Two "Zotofoam" baths.
- (d) Turkish baths.

Action taken to ensure the satisfactory condition of the water in the swimming baths was as follows:—During the months of August, September, October and November, twenty samples of the water were taken and submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological and chemical examinations. These samples consisted of five each from the inlet and outlet ends of the two baths. The following is a summary of the results of the examinations:—

(a) Bacteriological examinations—

Nine inlet samples were satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

Six outlet samples were satisfactory and four unsatisfactory.

(b) Chemical examinations—

(i) pH Value. No sample was satisfactory. As compared with the Ministry of Health standard of pH 7.6—8, the values of the ten inlet samples varied from pH 6.4—7.4, and the ten outlet samples from pH 6.3—7.4.

(ii) Free Chlorine. As compared with the Ministry of Health standard of 0.2—0.5 parts free chlorine in one million parts of water, only three inlet samples and two outlet samples were satisfactory. Of the ten inlet samples, four contained no free chlorine, one 0.3 parts per million, one 0.4 parts per million, one 0.5 parts per million, and three 1.0 parts per million. Of the outlet samples, four contained no free chlorine, two 0.2 parts per million, one 0.6 parts per million, and three 1.0 parts per million.

It is to be noted that although the samples which contained 1.0 parts free chlorine per million were reported upon as bacteriologically satisfactory, the favourable result in that respect was probably only achieved by a serious overdose of chlorine, and which was likely to be injurious by its irritant effects upon bathers' eyes. Several complaints were made to the Medical Officer of Health by bathers who complained of sore eyes. The conclusions drawn from the foregoing results of bacteriological and chemical examinations are that the arrange-

ments to ensure the satisfactory condition of the water in the swimming baths were inefficient during 1937, having regard to the Ministry of Health standard, and particularly when the numbers of bathers entering the swimming baths reached their maximum, which was an average of approximately 500 bathers per day in the months of July and August.

With a view to rendering the water in the swimming baths satisfactory, the manufacturers were in November called in to examine and report upon the filtration plant, and the matter was still in their hands at the end of the year under review. The results of such improvements as may be eventually effected will in the ordinary course be checked by further water samples which it is proposed to take periodically, and submit for bacteriological and chemical examination, during 1938.

NOTE BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:—

It is interesting to recall the fact that in 1910 I made some bacteriological examinations of Batley swimming bath water which were amongst the first of this nature in England. The results were received by the Batley Corporation with considerable hostility and strong disapproval.

In 1929 the Ministry of Health published a manual entitled "The Purification of the Water of Swimming Baths" where, on pages 12 and 14, references are made to these researches of approximately twenty years previously.

To-day it is a requirement of the Ministry of Health that reference to the condition of swimming baths in every local government area must be made in the annual report of the Medical Officer of Health.

Times change, and pioneers usually experience difficulties which in time become ordinary procedure.

Later, Dr. Sutherland, bacteriologist to the West Riding County Council, was associated with me in this type of research work.

(vii) **ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. (Mr. Hornby).**

The number of council houses found to be infested was eight, and other houses, three hundred and twenty-nine.

Although the degree of infestation in the Council houses was only limited, the Public Health and Housing Committees were requested to take a serious view of the matter and deal with the tenants accordingly. The tenants therefore appeared before a Sub-Committee, and were required to maintain improved conditions of domestic cleanliness whilst the Corporation carried out measures of disinfection, which consisted of repeated sprayings with Messrs. Newton Chambers "Zaldecide." In three instances of dirty tenants who neglected to give the necessary co-operation, the tenancies were terminated by the Corporation and possession obtained.

It is the view of the Corporation and their officials concerned in this particular matter, that given a fair degree of care on the part of the occupier in the exercise of ordinary domestic cleanliness, the question of serious re-infestation after the taking of first measures in the disinfection of household goods, should not arise in a new house. Nor is this view altered by the admission that, however efficient the preliminary measures may be in practice, a small number of bugs or their eggs are liable to be transmitted in furniture; for in these instances the tenant soon becomes aware of the fact, and if he will then promptly notify the local authority, the necessary remedial measures may be taken before the degree of infestation has had the opportunity to become serious. The practice followed in the Borough is, therefore, that if the tenant of a council house will promptly report the fact of his having found vermin therein, and will co-operate with the Corporation in the clearing up of the infestation, he is not penalised in any way: on the other hand, if he ignores the condition until it is discovered upon inspection, is indifferent about it, and neglects to maintain a standard of domestic cleanliness sufficiently high to render useful the measures of disinfection applied by the Corporation, he is given little sympathy, and termination of the tenancy is regarded as the only course of action available.

The three hundred and twenty-nine other houses referred to at the beginning of this section as found infested, were all

privately owned, and beyond notices to carry out the necessary cleansing from time to time served upon occupiers, no special work of disinfection was carried out by the Corporation. In certain instances the Sanitary Inspectors co-operated with contractors engaged by owners to disinfest houses upon changes of tenancy.

It may be added that the large number of bug-infested privately-owned houses in the town presents a very serious problem, as in most industrial districts.

The methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants from Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses are free from vermin before removal to Corporation houses were fully described on pages 39 to 42 of the Annual Report for 1935.

As regards changes of tenancy, the houses and goods of all applicants for Council houses are carefully examined for vermin and a sanitary report forwarded to the department which deals with the letting. Unless a successful applicant's house and goods are reported as clean and free from vermin, the same process of disinfection as for families re-housed from Clearance Areas (see pages 39/42 Annual Report, 1935) must be gone through.

All work of disinfection in connection with Council houses is carried out directly by the local authority, and having regard to the difficulties met with, a fair measure of success is achieved.

Every opportunity is taken to educate tenants upon this subject, both by the written word, and by verbal instruction given by officers of the Public Health Department. Viewing generally the results obtained, it is fair to state that whilst the majority act upon the advice given and make a real effort, dirty tenants have still to be contended with, and upon these any attempt at education appears by experience to be so much waste of time, hence the reason why the Corporation, in certain instances in the past, have had no option but to take proceedings to recover possession of council houses. Fortunately, it is also a fact that the number of dirty tenants requiring to be dealt with grows fewer year by year, so that on the whole, the evidence is on the side of steady progress.

4. **SCHOOLS.**

A separate report, being the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer, is made to the Town Council through its Education Committee. Reference may be made to these reports which ceased to be part of the Annual Health Report in 1926 at the request of the Education Committee, following a demand that the Chairman and Secretary of that date should edit the School Medical Officer's report.

This was a retrograde step and largely nullified the School Medical Officer's Annual Report.

The following is an extract from the annual report for 1930 of the School Medical Officer:—

“ A complete review of the hygienic conditions of the schools in the area is contained in the report of the School Medical Officer for the year 1925, pages 80 to 113. Five years having elapsed, a complete survey has again been made. The reports are extensive. They are not published herewith for that reason, but are available for reference whenever the Committee may desire to become acquainted with the existing conditions in their schools as viewed from the hygienic standpoint.”

The committee has never expressed any desire to consider these reports and the time spent upon their preparation would appear to have been wasted.

Recent additions to the above-mentioned are special reports upon the hygienic conditions in all the Birstall schools (which were presented to the Public Health Committee and sent by that Committee to the Education Committee for consideration) and special reports upon the hygienic conditions prevailing in connection with the Park Road and Batley C. of E. schools where diphtheria caused some anxiety during the latter part of 1937.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1937 FOR THE BOROUGH OF
BATLEY IN THE COUNTY OF YORKSHIRE (WEST
RIDING) ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY
AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901, IN CONNECTION WITH
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.**

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	27	13	—
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	281	10	—
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises)	4	1	—
Total	312	24	—

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of offences in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—†				
Want of cleanliness	28	33*	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	1*	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	6	7*	—	—
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient	1	—	—
	unsuitable or defective	8	7	—
	not separate for sexes	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-house (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
[Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.]				
Total	43	48*	—	—

† Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

* NOTE. The excess of “defects remedied” over “defects found” is due to certain defects found prior to 1937 being remedied during that year.

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

Nature of Work.	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

In order to comply with the requirements of the Ministry of Health the several heads have been read as a whole before the form was filled up, **and care has been taken to avoid duplication**; for example, a defective house remedied twice during the year has been counted once only.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1680
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	6643
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	358
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	2177
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	170
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	1387

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Authority or their officers	1443*
--	-------

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

(a) **Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:— | |
| (a) By owners | Nil. |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil. |

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 35 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 39* |

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing Orders were made | 1 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil. |

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING:—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 842 |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein | 842 |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein | 4329 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | Nil. |
| (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 30 |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases | 166 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | Nil. |
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.
See the section of this Annual Report dealing with the Overcrowding Survey. | |

NOTE. *The excess of defective houses rendered fit over those found is due to instances brought forward from the previous year. The same circumstances apply in regard to the excess of houses demolished over Demolition Orders made.

GENERAL REPORT UPON HOUSING ACTIVITIES IN THE BOROUGH.

(By the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. Hornby.)

The special efforts directed to deal with unsatisfactory working-class houses in the Borough, which policy was referred to in the annual reports for 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935 and 1936, were continued during the year under review. The procedure followed was that laid down by the Housing Act, 1936, and falls under three main headings, viz.:—

- (a) Clearance Areas under Part III. of the Housing Act, 1936;
- (b) Individual Unfit Houses under Part II. of the Housing Act, 1936; and
- (c) The Overcrowding Survey under Part IV. of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Clearance Areas.

The Borough of Batley (Dale Street, King Street and Cross King Street) Clearance Area, 1936.

Following the progress made with this area prior to 1937, and which is fully described on pages 54 and 55 of the Annual Report for 1936, it is only necessary here to refer to the final stages carried through to secure vacation, re-housing and demolition. Of the thirty-nine occupied houses, twenty-three displaced families had by the end of 1937 been re-housed by the Corporation at the Carlinghow Lane and Purlwell House Estates, whilst three displaced families found alternative accommodation for themselves. Thirteen families therefore remained to be re-housed at the end of the year, the replacement houses for them being in course of completion at that time. Any further action necessary to secure demolition of all the buildings in the area was therefore carried over to 1938.

In two instances the landlord was prosecuted for re-letting houses after the date by which the Clearance Order required them to be vacated. The Magistrates found the cases proved and imposed fines totalling £10 and 12/6 costs.

The Borough of Batley (Fleming Square) Clearance Area, 1937.

"	"	"	"	(Wellington St. No. 1.)	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	(Dark Lane)	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	(Spa Street)	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	(Woodwell)	"	"	"

These areas, consisting of thirty-three, three, three, fifteen, and twenty-nine houses respectively, making a total of eighty-three houses, were made the subject of Clearance Orders by the Town Council on the 17th June, 1937. Arising out of the application by the Corporation to the Ministry of Health for confirmation of the Orders, the owners of the first four areas above mentioned lodged objections, and the Minister directed a local public inquiry to be held. This took place at the Town Hall, Batley, on the 5th October, 1937, when the owners put forward objections on various legal, technical, and equitable grounds. As regards the Spa Street Area, a plan outlining a scheme of reconditioning was produced by the owner's architect, who gave evidence in support of the contention that the Minister should approve the carrying out of such a scheme as an alternative to demolition; but the Corporation's witnesses, for certain reasons they stated, were not prepared to agree.

At the conclusion of the inquiry the Minister's Inspector visited every house in the area, and in due course reported his findings to the Minister of Health. Later, the Minister confirmed the Clearance Orders by Orders made on the 29th January, 1938, and designated:—

Batley (Fleming Square) Housing Confirmation Order, 1938.

„ (Wellington St. No. 1.)	„	„	„	„
„ (Dark Lane)	„	„	„	„
„ (Spa Street)	„	„	„	„
„ (Woodwell)	„	„	„	„

The following are the houses concerned:—

Nos. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12, Churchfield Street;

„ 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9, Churchfield Terrace;

„ 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16, Fleming Street;

„ 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Fleming Square;

„ 2 (Newsome House), 4, 6 and 8, Fleming Place;

The derelict house and redundant licensed premises, and Nos. 1 and 1a, Feming Square;

Nos. 6, 8, and 10, Wellington Street;

„ 5, 5a and 7, Dark Lane;

„ 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 17 and 19, Spa Street.

„ 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Back Spa Street;

„ 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 21, Jacob Street,

„ 1 and 3, Back Jacob Street;

„ 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20, Woodwell Street; and

„ 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19, Mayman Lane.

The effect of the confirmation orders is that each of the buildings included therein shall be demolished by the owners, and for that purpose each house must be vacated within nine months from the date when the Orders become operative. The latter date being the 19th March, 1938, the date before which the houses in the areas are to be vacated is therefore the 19th December, 1938.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1936, the Minister, having taken into account the report of his Inspector, directed that payments in respect of well-maintained houses should be made by the local authority to the owners of Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9, Churchfield Terrace, and No. 2 (Newsome House) Fleming Place.

Miscellaneous.

By the end of the year under review the work in connection with surveys, records, and reports preliminary to five further clearance areas being officially proceeded with, had been completed, and it was intended to make application to the Town Council to make Clearance Orders relating thereto early in 1938.

(b) Individual Unfit Houses under Part II. of the Housing Act, 1936.

The table at the end of this section gives details of 240 individual unfit houses dealt with during the year.

Deducting the 153 houses officially represented prior to the year under review, but carried over to 1937 for further action, the number of houses in respect of which formal action was initiated during 1937 was 87, as follows:—

Back-to-back houses	....	....	....	....	....	42
Single-back houses	....	....	....	....	....	36
Through	....	....	....	....	....	7
Underground sleeping places	....	....	....	....	....	2
						—
Total	....	....	....	....	....	87
						==

Based upon a total of 240 individual unfit houses actually dealt with in a statutory manner during 1937, the following table summarises the action taken, and the results thereof.

Nature of Order or Undertaking.	Made or Accepted.	Complied with during 1937.	Not complied with by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
Demolition Orders	60	39	21
Closing Orders	8	6	2
Undertakings not to use for human habitation	54	36	18
Undertakings to render fit for human habitation	95	55	40
Undertakings to demolish	8	7	1
Houses officially represented but final action not decided by end of 1937	15	—	15
Totals	240	143	97

The foregoing table shows that of the 240 individual unfit houses, or parts thereof, dealt with in 1937, 143 had been demolished, or closed, or rendered fit, by the end of the year, whilst 97 were carried over to 1938 for further action. As regards the latter number, the official action to be taken had been formally decided by the Town Council in 82 instances, leaving 15, ten of which had been officially represented by the Medical Officer of Health towards the end of 1937, and therefore still to be dealt with by the Committee at the end of the year.

Having regard to the many difficulties peculiar to the subject, and the more or less elaborate procedure which the law requires shall be followed in each case, the progress made in dealing with individual unfit houses in the Borough was therefore satisfactory during 1937, and reflects no little credit upon the responsible Committee.

A matter of real concern, as pointed out in previous annual reports, is the shortage of replacement houses at rents which displaced families can afford; for as the number of families displaced without being offered alternative accommodation

increases, this of itself renders the shortage progressively more acute, and seriously retards the work. There still remains in the town a considerable number of substantial back-to-back houses which could with advantage be converted into through houses, yet cannot be proceeded with as expeditiously as other circumstances warrant, because of the extreme difficulty of accommodating the families which would be displaced. If only the Town Council could see its way to adopt a policy of providing suitable alternative accommodation for all suitable families displaced by the operation of the Housing Acts, the progress in housing so far achieved might be greatly exceeded; and without any increase of effort, much of which is unnecessarily long drawn out through schemes of improvement being unavoidably held up for long periods because the families to be displaced have nowhere to go.

The particulars given in the table at the end of this section call for little comment beyond what is stated therein. Many of the schemes of re-conditioning gave excellent results, especially in regard to the conversion of back-to-back houses, from which in certain instances through houses of a very high standard of fitness have been produced.

Similarly as remarked in previous annual reports, the individual unfit houses specifically referred to in this section of the report only form a small proportion of those actually dealt with, since a large part of the time of the District Sanitary Inspectors is taken up in securing maintenance repairs to considerable numbers of unfit houses, which, for various reasons, it is not practicable at the present time to deal with by statutory means.

The Borough Surveyor (Mr. H. L. Hall) supplies the following information:—

The number of houses erected during 1937 were as follows:

Corporation. Housing Act, 1935.

Carlinghow Lane Estate	....	....	....	....	31
Private Enterprise	....	....	....	....	160
Subsidy Houses erected by Private					
Enterprise	....	....	....	....	Nil.

The number of W.C's. erected during the year was 210.

The number of houses erected by the Corporation since building operations commenced in 1919 is as follows:—

	Housing Act, 1919.	178	
	do. 1923.	64	
	do. 1924.	180	
	do. 1925.	2	
	do. 1930.	104	
	do. 1935.	31	
	do. 1930.	10 Bungalows.	
		<hr/>	
		569	
Birstall Ward.	1919 Act.	69	
	1923 Act.	70	
	—	139	
		<hr/>	
		708	
		<hr/> <hr/>	

With regard to the future policy of the Corporation, land has been purchased adjoining Bunkers Lane with accommodation for 70 Houses, and in Grange Road (162 Houses). Land has also been purchased adjoining Dark Lane, and there is land available in the Birstall Ward for Housing purposes.

DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS: HOUSING ACTS,

Certain particulars were given in each of the Annual Reports from 1926 to 1936. To these the following must be added to show the position on the 31st December, 1937:—

Ref.No.	Situation.	Date of Official Representa- tion.	Date of Closing Order.	Date of Demolition Order.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	13, Fleming Street 15, Fleming Street 17, Fleming Street	17.10.34 17.10.34 17.10.34	— — —	5.12.34 5.12.34 30.10.35	6 Back-to-back Houses. 1 Single-back House. 2 Underground Sleeping Places.
	19, Fleming Street 21, Fleming Street 23, Fleming Street 25, Fleming Street 27, Fleming Street 26, Fleming Street	17.10.34 17.10.34 17.10.34 17.10.34 17.10.34 15. 3.33	— — — — — 3. 5.33	30.10.35 30.10.35 30.10.35 30.10.35 30.10.35 30.10.35	Demolished during 1937.
2	132, Linwood Terr.	19. 6.35	2.10.35	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Not vacated by end of year; further action carried over to 1938.
3	5, White Lee Rd. 7, White Lee Rd. 9, White Lee Rd. 11, White Lee Rd. 13, White Lee Rd. 15, White Lee Rd.	16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35	— — — — — —	— — — — — —	1 Through House. 2 Single-back Houses. 3 Back-to-back Houses. No. 7 demolished and remaining 5 Houses converted into 3 through Houses dur- ing 1937.
4	49, Providence St. 51, Providence St. 53, Providence St. 55, Providence St.	16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35	— — — —	1.1.36 1.1.36 1.1.36 1.1.36	1 Back-to-back House. 3 Single-back Houses. Demolished during 1937.
5	3, Quarry Street 4, Quarry Street 5, Quarry Street 6, Quarry Street 7, Quarry Street 8, Quarry Street 9, Quarry Street	16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35 16.10.35	— — — — — — —	— — — — — — —	1 Through House. 6 Single-back Houses. No's 4 to 9 (inclusive) rendered fit on under- taking during 1937. Works at No. 3 out- standing at end of year, since owner had not obtained posses- sion from an over- crowded family. Further action carried over to 1938.

[illegible]

Ref. No. 1	Situation. (2)	Date of Official Represent- ation. (3)	Date of Closing Order. (4)	Date of Demolition Order. (5)	Remarks. (6)
11	157, Bradford Rd. East	20. 5.36	—	7.10.36	6 Back-to-back Houses. Demolished during 1937.
	159, Bradford Rd. East	20. 5.36	—	7.10.36	
	161, Bradford Rd. East	20. 5.36	—	7.10.36	
	163, Bradford Rd. East	20. 5.36	—	7.10.36	
	165, Bradford Rd. East	20. 5.36	—	7.10.36	
	167, Bradford Rd. East	20. 5.36	—	7.10.36	
12	1, Baptist Street	17. 6.36	—	—	4 Single-back Houses. Rendered fit during 1937.
	3, Baptist Street	17. 6.36	—	—	
	5, Baptist Street	17. 6.36	—	—	
	7, Baptist Street	17. 6.36	—	—	
13	47, Cobden Street	17. 6.36	—	—	1 Back-to-back House. Added to adjoining house to form one through house, during 1937.
14	13, New Street	17. 6.36	—	7.10.36	2 Single-back Houses. Demolished during 1937.
	15, New Street	17. 6.36	—	7.10.36	
15	24, Hume Street	15. 7.36			2 Back-to-back Houses. Added to No's. 20 and 30, Hume Street to form two through houses, during 1937.
	26, Hume Street	15. 7.36			
16	18, Commonsides....	15. 7.36	—	—	1 Back-to-back House. 2 Single-back Houses. No. 18, Commonsides, rendered fit; No's. 20 and 22, discontinued as houses, but not de- molished, as it was impracticable to do this having regard to adjoining property.
	20, Commonsides....	15. 7.36	—	28.10.36	
	22, Commonsides....	15. 7.36	—	28.10.36	
17	19, Cresswell Lane	15. 7.36	—	28.10.36	2 Through Houses. Demolished during 1937.
	21, Cresswell Lane	15. 7.36	—	28.10.36	
18	6, Chapel Fold	23. 9.36	—	6. 1.37	2 Single-back Houses. Demolished during 1937.
	8, Chapel Fold	23. 9.36	—	6. 1.37	
19	16, Chapel Fold	23. 9.36	—	—	1 Single-back House. Closed on undertak- ing during 1937.

Ref.No.	Situation. (2)	Date of Official Represent- ation. (3)	Date of Closing Order. (4)	Date of Demolition Order. (5)	Remarks. (6)
20	45, Cresswell Lane 47, Cresswell Lane 49, Cresswell Lane 51, Cresswell Lane 53, Cresswell Lane	15. 7.36 15. 7.36 15. 7.36 15. 7.36 15. 7.36	— — — — —	— — — — —	5 Single-back Houses. Converted into two through houses during 1937.
21	65a, Bradford Road, C.	23. 9.36	—	—	1 Back-to-back House. Closed on undertak- ing during 1937.
22	110, High Street Hanging Heaton	23. 9.36	—	—	1 Single-back House. Rendered fit on under- taking during 1937.
23	12, East Street.... 1, Yard 1, East Street 2, Yard 1, East Street	23. 9.36 23. 9.36 23. 9.36	— — —	6. 1.37 6. 1.37 6. 1.37	3 Back-to-back Houses. Vacated, but not de- molished by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
24	57, Dark Lane 59, Dark Lane	23. 9.36 23. 9.36	— —	— —	1 Through House. 1 Back-to-back House. Undertaking to render fit not complied with by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
25	2a, Healey Lane	21.10.36	—	3. 3.37	1 Single-back House. Demolished during 1937.
26	32, Carr Street	21.10.36	—	—	1 Back-to-back House. Closed on undertak- ing during 1937.
27	29, Cresswell Lane 31, Cresswell Lane 33, Cresswell Lane	21.10.36 21.10.36 21.10.36	— — —	6. 1.37 6. 1.37 6. 1.37	3 Single-back Houses. Houses vacated, but not demolished, by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
28	36, Hume Street 38, Hume Street	21.10.36 21.10.36	— —	— —	2 Back-to-back Houses. Undertaking to con- vert into one through house not complied with by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
29	9, Knowles Hill 10, Knowles Hill 11, Knowles Hill 12, Knowles Hill	21.10.36 21.10.36 21.10.36 21.10.36	— — — —	3. 2.37 3. 2.37 3. 2.37 3. 2.37	4 Single-back Houses. Demolished during 1937.

Ref. No. 1	Situation. (2)	Date of Official Representation. (3)	Date of Closing Order. (4)	Date of Demolition Order. (5)	Remarks. (6)
30	2, Heights' Lane 4, Heights' Lane 6, Heights' Lane	— — —	— — —	— — —	3 Single-back Houses. Action delayed by difficulty in defining the Batley-Heckmond-wike boundary.
31	53, Chapel Fold.... 55, Chapel Fold.... 57, Chapel Fold.... 63, Chapel Fold.... 67, Chapel Fold.... 69, Chapel Fold.... 79, Chapel Fold....	18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36	— — — — — — —	— — — — — — —	6 Through Houses. 1 Back-to-back House. Closed on undertaking during 1937.
32	67, Occupation Lane 69, Occupation Lane 71, Occupation Lane	18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36	— — —	5. 5.37 5. 5.37 5. 5.37	2 Back-to-back Houses. 1 Single-back House. Two of the houses were vacated by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
33	1, Court 2, Albion Street....	18.11.36	—	—	Back-to-back House. Closed on undertaking during 1937.
34	8, Bradford Road, C. 10, Bradford Road, C. 12, Bradford Road, C. 14, Bradford Road, C. 4, Hanover Sq. 5, Hanover Sq. 6, Hanover Sq. 7, Hanover Sq. 8, Hanover Sq.	18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36	— — — — — — — — —	— — — — — — — — —	9 Back-to-back Houses. No's. 8, 10, 12 & 14, Bradford Road, C., & No's. 5, 6, 7 and 8, Hanover Square, converted into 4 through houses. Undertaking not to use for human habitation given in respect of No. 4, Hanover Sq., not complied with by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
35	15, Towngate Rd. 17, Towngate Rd. 19, Towngate Rd. 21, Towngate Rd.	18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36 18.11.36	— — — —	— — — —	Single-back Houses. Closed on undertaking during 1937.
36	4, Yard 3, Dark Lane 5, Yard 3, Dark Lane	18.11.36 18.11.36	— —	3. 2.37 3. 2.37	2 Single-back Houses. Demolished during 1937.
37	32, Queen Street	18.11.36	—	5. 5.37	1 Back-to-back House. Vacated, but not demolished by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.

Ref.No. 1	Situation. (2)	Date of Official Representa- tion. (3)	Date of Closing Order. (4)	Date of Demolition Order. (5)	Remarks. (6)
38	94, King Street....	18.11.36	—	—	1 Back-to-back House. Closed on undertaking during 1937.
39	67, Day's Yard Hanging Heaton	16.12.36	—	—	1 Back-to-back House. After certain works had been carried out on an undertaking, owner expressed his intention of voluntarily closing the house. House still occupied at end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
40	136, Leeds Road Soothill	16.12.36	—	3. 3.37	2 Single-back Houses. Demolished during 1937.
	138, Leeds Road Soothill	16.12.36	—	3. 3.37	
41	5, Holland Street	17. 4.35	—	3. 7.35	1 Underground Sleeping Place. Vacated during 1937.
42	6, Brookroyd Lane	20. 3.35	—	5. 6.35	1 Single-back House. Demolished during 1937.
43	11, Tichbourne St. 13, Tichbourne St. 15, Tichbourne St. 17, Tichbourne St. 19, Tichbourne St. 1, Tichbourne St. 2, Tichbourne St. 3, Tichbourne St. 4, Tichbourne St. 5, Tichbourne St. 6, Tichbourne St. 7, Tichbourne St. 8, Tichbourne St.	20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37 20. 1.37	— — — — — — — — — — — — —	— — — — — — — — — — — — —	10 Back-to-back Houses. 3 Single-back Houses Undertaking accepted to convert 10 back-to-back houses into 5 through houses, and 3 single back houses into 2 houses with cross-ventilation. Works not in progress by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
44	60/62, High St., Hanging Heaton	20. 1.37	—	7. 4.37	1 Back-to-back House. Demolition in progress at end of year.
45	161, High Street, Hanging Heaton	20. 1.37	7. 4.37	—	1 Underground Sleeping Place. Operation of Closing Order suspended during present tenancy.
46	34, Hume Street 34a, Hume Street	17. 2.37 17. 2.37	— —	— —	2 Back-to-back Houses. Undertaking accepted to convert into one through house. Works not completed by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.

Ref. No.	Situation. (2)	Date of Official Representa- tion. (3)	Date of Closing Order. (4)	Date of Demolition Order. (5)	Remarks. (6)
47	184, Healey Lane 186, Healey Lane	17. 2.37 17. 2.37	— —	— —	2 Single-back Houses. Rendered fit on under- taking during 1937.
48	203, Healey Lane 205, Healey Lane	17. 2.37 17. 2.37	— —	7. 7.37 7. 7.37	2 Single-back Houses. Demolition not in pro- gress at end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
49	15, Alma Terrace	17. 2.37	—	5. 5.37	1 Underground Sleeping Place. Vacant at end of year.
50	40, Victoria St., Carlinghow	17. 2.37	—	—	1 Back-to-back House. Added to adjoining house to form one through house.
51	77, Intake Lane	17. 2.37	—	—	1 Through House. Undertaking not to use for human habita- tion not complied with by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
52	5, East Street....	17. 2.37	—	—	1 Through House. Works on undertaking to render fit not com- pleted by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
53	15, Track Mount Track Road	21.4. 37	—	7. 7.37	1 Through House. Not demolished by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
54	224, Commonsides, Hanging Heaton 226, Commonsides, Hanging Heaton 228, Commonsides, Hanging Heaton 230, Commonsides, Hanging Heaton 232, Commonsides, Hanging Heaton	19. 5.37 19. 5.37 19. 5.37 19. 5.37 19. 5.37 19. 5.37	— — — — — —	— — — — — —	5 Single-back Houses. Works on undertaking to render fit in pro- gress, but not com- pleted, by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
55	1, Wilby's Place, Up. Batley Lane 2, Wilby's Place, Up. Batley Lane 5, Wilby's Place, Up. Batley Lane	16. 6.37 16. 6.37 16. 6.37 16. 6.37	— — — —	6.10.37 6.10.37 6.10.37 6.10.37	2 Back-to-back Houses. 1 Single-back House. Demolition not in pro- gress by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.

[illegible]

Ref.No.	Situation. (2)	Date of Official Represent- ation. (3)	Date of Closing Order. (4)	Date of Demolition Order. (5)	Remarks. (6)
61	59, Occupation Ln. 61, Occupation Ln. 63, Occupation Ln.	15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37	— — —	— — —	3 Back-to-back Houses. Undertaking accepted to demolish No. 61, Occupation Lane, and render the remaining two houses fit for human habitation. Works not commenced by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
62	65, Occupation Ln.	15. 9.37	—	—	1 Single-back House. Undertaking accepted that house shall not be used for human habitation until rendered fit. Further action carried over to 1938.
63	13, Healey Street 15, Healey Street 17, Healey Street 19, Healey Street 15, Wetherill St. 17, Wetherill St. 19, Wetherill St. 21, Wetherill St. 25, Wetherill St. 27, Wetherill St. 29, Wetherill St. 31, Wetherill St.	15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37 15. 9.37	— — — — — — — — — — — —	— — — — — — — — — — — —	8 Back-to-back Houses. 4 Single-back Houses. Undertaking accepted to convert the 8 back-to-back houses into 4 through houses, and to render the 4 single-back houses fit for human habitation. Works not commenced by end of year. Further action carried over to 1938.
64	1, Cheapside Mill Yard 2, Cheapside Mill Yard	15. 9.37 15. 9.37	— —	— —	2 Single-back Houses. Closed on undertaking during 1937.
65	1, Nab Lane, Birstall 17, Leeds Road, Birstall 19, Leeds Road, Birstall 58, Bradford Rd., Birstall 60, Bradford Rd., Birstall 3, Muffit Lane, Birstall 32, Smithies Moor Lane, Birstall... 11, New Street, Batley 9, Caledonia Rd., Batley 11, Caledonia Rd., Batley	15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37 15.12.37	— — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	— — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	Single-back House. Single-back House. Single-back House. Back-to-Back House Back-to-Back House Single-back House. Single-back House. Through House. Back-to-Back House Back-to-Back House Final action not determined by end of year. Carried over to 1938.

(c) **THE OVERCROWDING SURVEY UNDER PART IV OF
THE HOUSING ACT, 1936.**

**REPORT UPON THE DETAILED SURVEY OF WORKING-
CLASS HOUSES IN THE BOROUGH, INCLUDING
BIRSTALL.**

On Pages 57 to 66 of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1935, and Pages 74 to 78 of the corresponding Report for 1936, appeared certain information relating to Overcrowding Surveys of the Borough, prior to the inclusion therein of Birstall. Whilst these Reports were complete according to the time given, and the Area covered, revision has been rendered necessary by the extension of this Area consequent upon the amalgamation of Birstall and Batley.

The present report, therefore, relates to the Detailed Survey of the Borough as now constituted.

It will be noted that, subject to the necessary modifications of figures, many of the observations made in the previous Reports indicated are herein repeated, the object being to make the present report clear without the trouble of making back references to material already reported. Indeed it may be said at the outset that the effect upon the position with regard to overcrowding, consequent upon the inclusion of Birstall in the Borough, has been to enlarge the dimensions of the problem, but not materially to alter its nature.

This report is also intended to form the basis of recommendations to be made by the Joint Sub-Committee appointed to give effect to Minute 203, 15/9/37, of the Public Health Committee, which is as follows:—

“ Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding Survey.

Referring to Minute 98, the Senior Sanitary Inspector reported upon the detailed survey of working class houses in respect of the overcrowding provisions of the above Act in the Birstall Ward, together with a revised detailed report of the position in so far as it now affects the whole of the Borough, and after consideration thereof it was

Resolved:—That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillors Ineson and Rennison be appointed a Sub-Committee—in conjunction with representatives appointed by the Housing and Town Planning Committee—to consider these reports in the light of

- (a) the conditions from an overcrowding standpoint of working-class housing revealed by the report in the Birstall Ward, and
- (b) the effect of these conditions upon the Borough as a whole in so far as the previously formulated re-housing proposals of the Corporation may require alteration consequent upon the inclusion of Birstall in the Borough."

The conditions, from an overcrowding standpoint, of working class housing in Birstall may readily be gathered from the figures separately given for this Ward in the Tables herein, and the appended Form C's. The effect of these conditions upon the Borough as a whole may be conveniently estimated by comparison between the figures given for the Birstall Ward and the corresponding figures given beside them for the other Wards in the Borough and for the Borough as a whole.

The new responsibilities of local authorities in regard to over-crowding arose out of the provisions of Section I of the Housing Act, 1935, now repealed, but re-enacted by Section 57 of the Housing Act, 1936, which states as follows:—

- “(1) It shall be the duty of every authority before such dates as may be fixed by the Minister as respects their district, to cause an inspection thereof to be made with a view to ascertaining what dwelling houses therein are overcrowded, and to prepare and submit to the Minister a report showing the result of the inspection and the number of new houses required in order to abate overcrowding in their district, and, unless they are satisfied that the required number of new houses will be otherwise provided, to prepare and submit to the Minister proposals for the provision thereof.
- (2) If at any time or times after effect has been given by the local authority to the provision of the foregoing sub-section it appears to them that occasion has arisen therefor, or the Minister so directs, it shall be the duty of the authority to cause a further inspection to be made and to prepare and submit a report and proposals as aforesaid as respects their district or any part thereof, and, where the Minister gives a direction under this sub-section, he may, after consultation with the local authority, fix dates before which the performance of the said duties is to be completed.”

Arising out of the recent inclusion of Birstall in the Borough, it would appear that "an occasion," within the meaning of the latter sub-section, has arisen for the submission to the Minister of a report and proposals in accordance therewith.

By circular 1507 of the 19th November, 1935, the Minister of Health fixed the following dates:—

- (1) For completing an inspection of the working-class houses in the district of the local authority to ascertain the the over-crowded houses.....1st April, 1936.
- (2) For preparing and submitting to the Minister a report on the inspection shewing the result of the inspection and the number of new houses required in order to abate abate overcrowding in the district.....1st June, 1936.
- (3) For preparing and submitting to the Minister proposals for the provision of the new houses required for this purpose.....1st August, 1936.

All these requirements were, at the appropriate times, duly carried out by the Town Council, but the report referred to in (2) and proposals mentioned in (3) now require revision in the light of the total number of overcrowded houses to be dealt with having increased, through the inclusion of Birstall in the Borough, by 144, i.e., from a total of 719 overcrowded houses prior to the extension of the Borough to 863 houses after such extension.

The overcrowding standard applied in the course of Surveys upon which this report is based was laid down by Section 2 and the First Schedule of the Housing Act, 1935. These are now repealed, but re-enacted in precisely similar form by Section 58 and the Fifth Schedule to the Housing Act, 1936. Such standards consist mainly of two tables as follows:—

TABLE I.

Where the house consists of:—	The "Permitted Number" of Persons is
(a) One Room	2
(b) Two Rooms	3
(c) Three Rooms	5
(d) Four Rooms	7½
(e) Five Rooms	10, with an additional 2 in respect of each room in excess of 5.

TABLE II.

Where the floor area of room is:—					
(a)	110 sq. ft. or more	....	....	....	2
(b)	90 sq. ft. or more, but less than				$1\frac{1}{2}$
	110 sq. ft.	....	....	....
(c)	70 sq. ft. or more, but less than				1
	90 sq. ft.	....	....	....
(d)	50 sq. ft. or more, but less than				$\frac{1}{2}$
	70 sq. ft.	....	....	....
(e)	Under 50 sq. ft.	....	....	....	Nil.

In the application of these Tables account has only to be taken of rooms which are normally used in the locality either as living or sleeping rooms, i.e., living rooms and parlours are counted as sleeping rooms in addition to bedrooms. In assessing the numbers of persons sleeping in houses no account is taken of a child under 1 year old, and a child who has attained 1 year and is not 10 years old is reckoned as one-half a unit.

In the Official Forms C attached hereto, the sizes of houses are expressed in terms of the maximum numbers of persons who may sleep in them without overcrowding, these numbers being known as "Permitted Numbers." The "Permitted Number" for any particular house is that given in Table I, or the aggregate number of persons for all the living and sleeping rooms in the house estimated according to Table II, whichever is the smaller. It will be seen that if all the rooms in a house are of 110 sq. ft. or more in area only Table I will require to be used.

The total number of working class houses in the Borough was found to be 11,499, of which 46 were recorded as vacant on the day of the Enumerator's visit, and 863, or 7.5% of the whole, overcrowded. Classified according to type 4,473, or 39% of the whole, were "through houses"; 3,867, or 33.6% "back-to-back"; 2,978, or 25.9% "single-back"; 174, one-roomed dwellings, and 7 were of indefinite type. Whilst the proportion of obsolete back-to-back and single-back houses is obviously too high to be satisfactory, it is encouraging to note that the highest total of any one type of house in Batley is that relating to "through" houses. The Borough is, therefore, far from being a 100% "back-to-back" town, though there is still much leeway to make up before the state of working class housing as regards types of houses can be regarded as satisfactory.

The results of the Survey clearly indicate that such overcrowding as exists in the Borough does not arise from the presence of lodgers or sub-tenants, but is almost solely due to families of sizes in excess of the "Permitted Numbers" applicable to the structurally separate houses they occupy; for only 159 or 1.4% of the working class houses in the Borough were found to contain lodgers and, of these, only 8 houses were overcrowded.

As regards the sub-letting of rooms so as to form technically independent dwelling houses, this was found to occur only in 8 instances (5 of them being in one particular street) and none of these was overcrowded.

The position in regard to sex overcrowding without numerical overcrowding is that only 2 such instances were recorded according to the standard laid down, which is that only in houses of one room can sex overcrowding occur without numerical overcrowding. It therefore follows that a house consisting of more than one room cannot according to the standard be sex overcrowded unless the number of persons sleeping therein exceeds the "Permitted Number" applicable thereto. It should not, however, be assumed from the foregoing that sex overcrowding is not serious in the Borough, for sex overcrowding must obviously occur in a large proportion of the 863 numerically overcrowded houses wherein living rooms and parlours are not used as sleeping rooms though counted as such according to the standard.

The foregoing summary will be sufficient to indicate that Batley's overcrowding problem is straight, even if a big one, and substantially consists of 863 existing houses in varying degrees too small for the families which inhabit them.

Appended hereto are the Detailed Overcrowding Survey Reports on the Official Form C, as required by the Minister of Health. Separate forms have been prepared for

- (a) for Borough as a whole,
- (b) each of the five Wards which comprise the Borough,
and
- (c) all the houses owned by the Corporation.

It will be noted that the figures for the Borough are a summary of those for the five Wards, and that the figures given for Corporation houses are also included in the Wards wherein the houses are situated. As there are no houses in the Borough belonging to other authorities, the necessity for a separate Form C covering such houses as required by the Minister does not arise. The following brief explanation will make clear how a Form C is read. The numbers in the left-hand vertical column refer to families (expressed in terms of numbers of persons therein) and the numbers set out horizontally along the top of the Form refer to houses (expressed in terms of "Permitted Numbers.") Reading the figures for instance from left to right entered on the third horizontal line of Form C for the Borough, it will be seen that there are 44 families each of 2 persons occupying houses with a "Permitted Number" of 2; there are 2 families each of 2 persons occupying houses with a "Permitted Number" of $2\frac{1}{2}$; there are 1192 families each of 2 persons occupying houses with a "Permitted Number" of 3, and so on. It will also be seen that the Form is intersected by a stepped diagonal line, by the help of which a picture is given of the housing conditions, so far as density is concerned, of the working class houses in the Borough. The figures to the left of the stepped diagonal line show the overcrowded families, and those to the right, the families which are not overcrowded. Further, the entries on the Form show as regards each size of overcrowded family the accommodation which it occupies and consequently the extent of the deficiency which is to be made up.

The totals entered in the three right hand vertical columns indicate the families of various sizes uncrowded and overcrowded, and totals set out horizontally along the bottom of the Form show the houses of various sizes uncrowded and overcrowded.

The following Table summarises the information given in the appended Form C's as to the degree in which houses are overcrowded in

- (a) the Borough as a whole,
- (b) each of the five Wards which comprise the Borough, and
- (c) all houses owned by the Corporation.

WORKING CLASS HOUSES—UNCROWDED AND OVERCROWDED.

Area.	Occupied Working-class Houses.			Percentage of over-crowded houses to houses in the Area.	Remarks.
	Un-crowded.	Over-crowded.	Total.		
(A) The Borough	10590	863	11453	7.5	
(B) North Ward	2678	282	2960	9.5	Includes Corporation Houses according to Wards in which situated.
East Ward	2793	185	2978	6.2	
West Ward	1961	172	2133	8.0	
Soothill Ward	1293	80	1373	5.8	
Birstall Ward	1865	144	2009	7.1	
(C) Houses owned by the Corporation	655	45	700	6.4	See Note above.

The number of new houses required in order to abate overcrowding in the Borough.

The method by which this number is to be calculated is set out in Memorandum B "The Prevention and Abatement of Overcrowding" issued in 1935 by the Ministry of Health, and is as follows:—

"From the completed Forms C, the Authority will make and fix a rough estimate of the accommodation required to abate overcrowding. For this purpose there can be estimated from the Form the total numbers of two-roomed, three-roomed, four-roomed, etc., houses which will be required to re-house the families shown to be overcrowded. From these totals are to be deducted the number of houses of the same sizes which would be left vacant by the removal of the overcrowded families. The number of vacant houses of the same sizes which were vacant at the time of the Survey should also be deducted. The resulting estimate of need, adjusted to take account of the difference between the overcrowding standard and the standard of Section 37 of the 1930 Act, would only be approximate, but in most cases would be sufficient to form the basis of, at any rate, the first re-housing proposals."

The Section referred to has been repealed since the issue of Memorandum B, but is re-enacted by Section 136 of the Housing Act, 1936.

FORM C

BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

THE BOROUGH.

OVERCROWDING SURVEY.-REPORT

Number of "Persons" in family	Number of families containing the number of persons in the first column occupying dwellings with the permitted number shown at the head of this column																							12½ up- wards	Families		
	1	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12		Over- crowded (a)	Un- crowded (b)	Total (c)
1			112	1	506		1	138	198		6	12	22	63	5	9	5	7	18	4			1	1		1109	1109
1½			4		7			1	1					1					1							15	15
2			44	2	1192		3	455	828	7	54	70	137	386	48	55	39	38	24	8	3	5	8	1		3407	3407
2½			4		399		2	128	209	2	21	22	54	113	13	16	7	6	9	2	1				4	1004	1008
3			1		590		3	329	634	8	47	84	130	381	36	69	55	34	34	5	5	3	3	1	1	2451	2452
3½					133		1	54	135	4	9	10	32	85	10	10	6	6	5	1		1	3	1	133	373	506
4					205			134	323	10	42	44	103	253	28	48	40	26	37	5	6	4	5		205	1108	1313
4½					67		1	26	67	1	11	12	23	53	3	15	11	6	10				3		68	241	309
5			1		87			46	141	4	13	30	49	110	11	35	16	22	18	6	2	4	6	3	134	470	604
5½					21		1	11	30		6	11	18	22	3	6	7	8	6		3			1	63	91	154
6					27			12	59		9	15	28	53	6	17	17	12	13	1	2	3	3		98	179	277
6½					11			3	15		5	3	7	8	2	4	4	3	6		1		1		34	39	73
7					6			3	18		2	9	9	17	1	4	3	6	5	1	1	3		2	38	52	90
7½					3			2	3		1	4	9	9		2	4	1	2					1	22	19	41
8					2			4	1			2	7	6	1	1	4	1	2	1	1				22	11	33
8½					2				1		1			6	4		1	2	1		2				14	6	20
9					1				2			3	2	3		2	2	1	4		2			1	13	10	23
9½									3				1	1	1				2			1	1		6	4	10
10					1								1	1		1									4		4
10½																		1				1			1	1	2
11													1	1											2		2
11½																											
12																											
13																		1							1		1
(a) Uncr'ded			160	3	2694		10	1265	2536	36	218	313	612	1554	167	291	221	179	197	34	29	25	34	12		10590	
(b) Overc'rd.			6		566		2	81	132		9	18	21	18	5	3		2							863		
(c) Total			166	3	3260		12	1346	2668	36	227	331	633	1572	172	294	221	181	197	34	29	25	34	12			11453

DWELLINGS

Number of " Persons " in family	Number of families containing the number of persons in the first column occupying dwellings with the permitted number shown at the head of this column																								12½ up-wards	Families		
	1	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12	Over-crowded (a)		Un-crowded (b)	Total (c)	
1			26		115			28	49		5	5	9	13	2	3	2	2	5	1			1			266	266	
1½									1																1	1		
2			8		299			111	167	4	17	12	55	82	23	11	10	9	12	2		2	1			825	825	
2½			1		99		1	35	46		4	5	25	20	3	3	4	4	3	1					1	253	254	
3			1		196		1	63	148	1	16	15	50	78	17	20	18	12	11	1	2				1	649	650	
3½					44		1	11	32		1		13	12	3		2	3		1					44	79	123	
4					76			30	70	3	10	13	43	63	13	13	14	5	15	2	1		3		76	298	374	
4½					22		1	4	13		2	3	7	13	2	5	4		5				2		23	60	83	
5					32			9	32	1	4	4	21	29	6	10	6	9	6	4		2	3		41	137	178	
5½					8			3	6		2	1	5	3			3	2	3		1				17	20	37	
6					7			2	21		2	3	13	11	1	7	3	8	3				2		30	53	83	
6½					4			2	5		1		5	3		1	1	1			1		1		12	13	25	
7					2				1			1	2	5		2		3	2						4	14	18	
7½								1	1		1	2	4	4		1		1							9	6	15	
8					1			1					3	2	1				1						7	2	9	
8½					1				1					2	2										6		6	
9									1				2	1		1	1		1						5	2	7	
9½									1					1	1										3		3	
10														1											1		1	
10½																												
11													1												1		1	
11½																												
12																												
13																		1							1		1	
(a) Uncr'ded			34		709		3	282	558	9	63	61	248	336	71	76	68	59	67	12	5	4	13			2678		
(b) Overc'rd.			2		197		1	18	37		2	3	10	7	3	1		1							282			
(c) Total			36		906		4	300	595	9	65	64	258	343	74	77	68	60	67	12	5	4	13		282	2678	2960	

DWELLINGS

FORM C

BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

EAST WARD.

OVERCROWDING SURVEY.-REPORT

Number of " Persons " in family	Number of families containing the number of persons in the first column occupying dwellings with the permitted number shown at the head of this column																							12½ up-wards	Families		
	1	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12		Over-crowded (a)	Un-crowded (b)	Total (c)
1			22		120			47	40			3	3	11	1	2	1	1	5	1				1		258	258
1½			2					1																		3	3
2			5		296		2	127	217		19	24	29	72	3	14	8	10	6	3	1	2	3	1		842	842
2½					106			31	61		14	6	10	27	2	5	1		2		1					266	266
3					130			94	169	3	22	31	30	98	3	21	10	11	14	4	2	3	2	1		648	648
3½					25			9	30	3	6	6	4	22	2	3	2	1	2			1	3		25	94	119
4					43			40	100	2	24	11	19	74	4	17	9	7	11	1	3	1			43	323	366
4½					11			10	15		9	5	8	18		4	2	4	3				1		11	79	90
5					17			13	45	1	7	12	8	30		16	5	6	9	1		1	1	2	30	144	174
5½					3		1	3	9		4	3	6	8	1	2	1	4	2		2			1	16	34	50
6					3			3	11		4	2	9	18	1	5	7	2	3			1	1		17	53	70
6½					1			1	5		4	1	2	4		1			4						11	12	23
7								3	5		2	1	4	6		1			3		1			1	11	16	27
7½									1			1	1				1		1					1	3	3	6
8								3					2	3			3		1		1				8	5	13
8½											1			2	1			2	1		2				4	5	9
9					1											1		1	1		1			1	2	4	6
9½									1				1						2				1		2	3	5
10																											
10½																		1				1			1	1	2
11														1											1		1
11½																											
12																											
13																											
(a) Uncr'ded			29		652		2	359	677	9	109	104	132	388	17	91	50	49	70	10	14	10	12	9		2793	
(b) Overc'rd.					104		1	26	32		7	2	4	6	1	1		1							185		
(c) Total			29		756		3	385	709	9	116	106	136	394	18	92	50	50	70	10	14	10	12	9	185	2793	2978

BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

WEST WARD.

OVERCROWDING SURVEY.-REPORT

Number of " Persons " in family	Number of families containing the number of persons in the first column occupying dwellings with the permitted number shown at the head of this column																							12½ up-wards	Families		
	1	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12		Over-crowded (a)	Un-crowded (b)	Total (c)
1			22		103			29	42			1	3	12	1	2	1	2	2	2						222	222
1½					3														1							4	4
2			11		261		1	98	165		4	9	20	75	5	9	12	14	3	2						689	689
2½			2		81			30	26			2	7	18		6	1	1	2						2	174	176
3					111			73	117		3	10	18	66	5	14	13	7	1		1		1			440	440
3½					25			10	31			2	7	8	1	3	2	1	1						25	66	91
4					45			33	62	2	3	4	19	46	3	8	10	10	6		1	2	1		45	210	255
4½					19			4	12	1		1	3	7		4	4	2	1						19	39	58
5					22			11	24	1	1	2	8	12		2	2	5					1		33	58	91
5½					3			3	8				3	4	1	3	1	1							14	13	27
6					7			3	9		2	2	4	8		1	1	1	2						19	21	40
6½					1				2			1				1	2	2							3	6	9
7					1				4				1	3			1	3		1			1		5	10	15
7½													2			1	1		1						2	3	5
8					1								1				1	1		1					2	3	5
8½																	1								1	1	1
9														1			1		1						1	2	3
9½																											
10					1											1									2		2
10½																											
11																											
11½																											
12																											
13																											
(a) Uncr'ded			33		559		1	277	479	4	13	34	93	259	16	54	54	50	21	6	2	2	3	1		1961	
(b) Overc'rd.			2		125			17	23				3	1		1									172		
(c) Total			35		684		1	294	502	4	13	34	96	260	16	55	54	50	21	6	2	2	3	1	172	1961	2133

DWELLINGS

BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

SOOTHILL WARD.

OVERCROWDING SURVEY.-REPORT

Number of " Persons " in family	Number of families containing the number of persons in the first column occupying dwellings with the permitted number shown at the head of this column																							12½ up- wards	Families		
	1	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12		Over- crowded (a)	Un- crowded (b)	Total (c)
1			10		40		1	21	23			2	2	8		1	1		2							111	111
1½														1												1	1
2			4		100			69	135	2	3	8	19	76	7	7	2	3	3	1		1	2			442	442
2½					24		1	22	30	1		3	5	27		1		1	1							116	116
3					39		1	66	82	4	2	6	16	69	4	5	5	3	4							306	306
3½					8			16	18	1	1		4	19	2	1			2						8	64	72
4					13			22	43	1		4	10	30	4	4	2	2	1		1	1			13	125	138
4½					3			4	8				2	9		1	1								3	25	28
5					7			10	17		1	1	2	17	1	7	2	2	1		1	1			17	53	70
5½					3			1	5			1	3	3			2								9	9	18
6					4			2	12		1	1		7	2	4	3		1	1		1			18	21	39
6½					2				2					1	1	1	1		1						4	5	9
7									3			1	1	3	1	1	2					1			4	9	13
7½					1									4			1								1	5	6
8																1									1	1	1
8½														1											1		1
9									1					1											2		2
9½																											
10																											
10½																											
11																											
11½																											
12																											
13																											
(a) Uncr'ded			14		203		3	220	356	9	8	26	64	274	22	34	22	11	16	2	2	5	2			1293	
(b) Overc'rd.					41			13	23			1		2											80		
(c) Total			14		244		3	233	379	9	8	27	64	276	22	34	22	11	16	2	2	5	2		80	1293	1373

DWELLINGS

Number of "Persons" in family	Number of families containing the number of persons in the first column occupying dwellings with the permitted number shown at the head of this column																								12½ up- wards	Families		
	1	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12	Over- crowded (a)		Un- crowded (b)	Total (c)	
1			32	1	128			13	44		1	1	5	19	1	1		2	4							252	252	
1½			2		4																					6	6	
2			16	2	236			50	144	1	11	17	14	81	10	14	7	2			2		2			609	609	
2½			1		89			10	46	1	3	6	7	21	8	1	1		1	1					1	195	196	
3					114		1	33	118		4	22	16	70	7	9	9	1	4							408	408	
3½					31			8	24		1	2	4	24	2	3		1						1	31	70	101	
4					28			9	48	2	5	12	12	40	4	6	5	2	4	2			1		28	152	180	
4½					12			4	19			3	3	6	1	1			1						12	38	50	
5			1		9			3	23	1		11	10	22	4		1		2	1	1		1	1	13	78	91	
5½					4			1	2			6	1	4	1	1		1	1						7	15	22	
6					6			2	6			7	2	9	2		3	1	4		2	1			14	31	45	
6½					3				1			1			1				1						4	3	7	
7					3				5			6	1									2			14	3	17	
7½					2			1	1			1	2	1			1								7	2	9	
8									1			2	1	1											5		5	
8½					1									1	1										3		3	
9												3							1		1				3	2	5	
9½									1													1			1	1	2	
10													1												1		1	
10½																												
11																												
11½																												
12																												
13																												
(a) Uncr'ded			50	3	571		1	127	466	5	25	88	75	297	41	36	27	10	23	4	6	4	4	2		1865		
(b) Overc'rd.			2		99			7	17			12	4	2	1										144			
(c) Total			52	3	670		1	134	483	5	25	100	79	299	42	36	27	10	23	4	6	4	4	2	144	1865	2009	

BOROUGH OF BATLEY. Houses Owned by the Corporation. OVERCROWDING SURVEY.-REPORT

Number of " Persons " in family	Number of families containing the number of persons in the first column occupying dwellings with the permitted number shown at the head of this column																							12½ up- wards	Families		
	1	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12		Over- crowded (a)	Un- crowded (b)	Total (c)
1					4						4		9	1	1	1			1							21	21
1½																											
2					7				1		15	14	45	4	15	6	7	2	1			1	1			119	119
2½					1						16	6	19	2	3	2	1	2								52	52
3					1				2		22	27	45	7	11	12	9	2	2							140	140
3½										1	5	4	12		2	1	1	1								27	27
4									1		18	20	34	9	7	7	10	1	1							108	108
4½											8	7	9	3	2	1	2		1				1			34	34
5									1		7	18	26	4	3	5	5	1	1							71	71
5½											5	6	10	1	1		1									24	24
6											3	11	16	3	1	5	1	1								41	41
6½											5	2	6			1									5	9	14
7											1	8	3	1		1						1			9	6	15
7½											1	3	7				1	1							11	2	13
8												2	5		1										7	1	8
8½											1			1	2										4		4
9												2	1	1		1									5		5
9½													1		1										2		2
10													1												1		1
10½																											
11													1												1		1
11½																											
12																											
13																											
(a) Uncr'ded					13				5	1	103	115	234	35	47	42	38	11	7			2	2			655	
(b) Overc'rd.											8	15	16	2	3	1									45		
(c) Total					13				5	1	111	130	250	37	50	43	38	11	7			2	2		45	655	700

DWELLINGS

The following Table shows the numbers of New Houses required:—

Sizes of Families.	Number of New Houses required.							Remarks.
	The Borough	North Ward	East Ward	West Ward	Soothill Ward	Birstall Ward	Corpor'n Houses	
1 to 2 persons.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	NOTE:— Figures for Corporation Houses are included in those for the wards in which they are situate.
2½ and 3 persons.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
3½ to 5 persons.	314	127	45	82	5	55	Nil	
5½ to 7½ persons.	178	49	31	37	33	28	Nil	
8 to 10 persons.	40	17	11	Nil	3	9	15	
12 to 14 persons.	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	
Totals	533	194	87	119	41	92	16	

The Ward distribution of the requirements for new houses has been given in detail in the foregoing Table, because it would appear from the definition of “suitable alternative accommodation,” given in Section 68 of the Housing Act, 1936, that the new houses for abating overcrowding should be provided in or near the Wards wherein the overcrowded families to be re-housed already reside. This definition is as follows:—

“ ‘Suitable alternative accommodation’ means, in relation to the occupier of a dwelling house, a dwelling house as to which the following conditions are satisfied, that is to say:—

- (a) the house must be a house in which the occupier and his family can live without causing it to be overcrowded;
- (b) the local authority must certify the house to be suitable to the needs of the occupier and his family as respects security of tenure and proximity to place of work and otherwise and to be suitable in relation to his means; and
- (c) if the house belongs to the local authority, they must certify it to be suitable to the needs of the occupier and his family as respects extent of accommodation having regard to the standard specified in paragraph (b) of section one hundred and thirty-six of this Act.”

The effect of the latter requirement appears to be that in deciding whether a house is overcrowded the standard to be applied is that laid down by Section 58 of the Housing Act, 1936, explained earlier in this report, but that if and when overcrowded families are re-housed by the Corporation, the new accommodation must comply with the higher standard laid down by Section 136 of the Housing Act, 1936, as follows:

House with 2 bedrooms provides accommodation for 4 persons.

House with 3 bedrooms provides accommodation for 5 persons.

House with 4 bedrooms provides accommodation for 7 persons.

It will be observed that the above is not a complete standard of accommodation, inasmuch as no mention is made of the sizes of the bed-rooms and no indication is given of the accommodation necessary for families consisting of more than seven persons, also, that in the interpretation of this standard, children are counted as whole persons without regard to age. By Circular 1539, dated 7th May, 1936, the Minister of Health indicated what appeared to him to be satisfactory re-housing standards for families of five, six, seven, eight, nine, or more persons, and no doubt the Town Council will take the recommendations made therein into consideration when working out schemes for the provision of alternative accommodation for the large families now living in overcrowded circumstances.

Before concluding this report it may not be out of place to comment upon one or two interesting aspects of the results of the Surveys.

As against 863 overcrowded families in the Borough, it was found there were 1,109 families of only one person, 15 families of only one and a half, and 3,407 families of only two persons, all occupying separate dwelling houses. One cannot, therefore, escape the view that if all the families resident in Batley were evenly distributed over the houses available, with the various sizes of houses suited to the correspondingly sized families, the overcrowding problem required to be tackled in the Borough would be of much smaller dimensions than appearances indicate. This, however, would appear to be an impossible ideal when reduced to practical politics, for after the 1st January, 1938, when the overcrowding provisions of the Act operate, whilst a local authority will be able to control the number of people occupying a house (so long as suitable

alternative accommodation is offered if a house is in the first instance overcrowded, or after a house once becomes vacant) there is no power to require a private landlord to accept as tenants a family of a size commensurate with the maximum capacity of the house. On the contrary, the effect of those provisions of the Housing Act, 1936, which have to do particularly with houses from a general fitness standpoint, is such that with very few exceptions private landlords are against the larger families occupying their houses. Hence, the majority of privately owned houses of three rooms and upwards will continue to be occupied by families of sizes well below the respective "Permitted Numbers" applicable thereto. This is not put forward as a wholly bad feature, since any influence which tends to spread the population out is obviously to the ultimate good of public health.

Another interesting point is that, assuming all the new houses required were available at the moment, it would be found there would be an excess of 571 two-roomed houses in the town over families of $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 persons. The question is, therefore, when the overcrowded families from small houses begin to remove into larger houses provided by the Corporation or private enterprise, how many of the existing 1,109 "separate families of one person" occupying houses, in many instances too big for them, will remove to the vacated two-roomed houses and in turn leave bigger houses vacant for other families. Again, will the owners of some of the 571 excess two-roomed houses ultimately find they have to enlarge them or convert each two small houses into one larger house so as to obtain tenants without infringing the new overcrowding standards? The same point suggests that the policy of the Public Health Committee, during the past few years, to obtain in suitable cases the conversion of two-roomed "back-to-back" houses into four-roomed "through" houses, is a good one; but it should be born in mind that to prevent hardship, any speeding up of this process will necessitate new houses being provided as and when required for the families displaced, which amount to half the total families occupying each block of "back-to-back" houses so to be converted.

H. HORNBY,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

28th December, 1937.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. by Mr. Hornby.

(a) **MILK SUPPLY.**—The action taken with regard to milk was as follows:—

- (1) Inspection of farms and dairies pursuant to the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.
 - (2) The taking of samples of milk for bacteriological examination.
 - (3) The issue of licences pursuant to the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.
- (1) **Inspection of farms and dairies pursuant to the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.**

The number of dairy farms in the Borough is 31, with herds comprising approximately 450 cows. The total number of inspections of cowsheds during the year was 347, and as a result thereof works of re-construction were carried out in 6 instances, and general improvements in 47 others. As regards dairies and milkshops, 200 inspections were made and general improvements carried out in 10 instances.

- (2) **The taking of samples of milk for bacteriological examination.**

The total number of samples submitted to bacteriological examination at the County Laboratory, Wakefield, was 76, of which 59 were taken by the Corporation's Sanitary Inspectors, and 17 by County Sanitary Officers. The results of the examinations were as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested Milk: 2 Samples of milks retailed in, but produced outside, the Borough, satisfied the methylene blue test.

Accredited Milk: A total of 12 samples were examined with the following results:—

Of 4 samples of milks retailed in, but produced outside, the Borough, 3 satisfied the methylene blue test and 1 did not satisfy the test.

Of 8 samples of milks produced in the Borough, 5 satisfied the methylene blue test and 3 did not satisfy the test.

Pasteurised Milk: A total of 16 samples were examined with the following results:—

Of 5 samples of milks retailed in, but produced outside the Borough, 4 satisfied the plate count test and 1 did not satisfy the test. One sample which was also submitted to the phosphatase test was found not to have been properly pasteurised.

Of 11 samples of milks produced in the Borough, 10 satisfied the plate count test and 1 did not satisfy the test. Two samples which were also submitted to the phosphatase test were found not to have been properly pasteurised.

Ordinary (ungraded) Milk: A total of 45 samples were examined with the following results:—

Of 15 samples of milks retailed in, but produced outside, the Borough, 3 did not satisfy the plate count test (also all had *B. coli* present in 1/100th Ml.), and of 12 submitted to the methylene blue test, 11 failed to reach the "Accredited" standard, and only one satisfied the test.

Of 30 samples of milks produced in the Borough, 3 did not satisfy the plate count test (also all had *B. coli* present in 1/100th Ml.), and of 27 submitted to the methylene blue test, 9 failed to reach the "Accredited" standard, and 18 satisfied the test.

A further classification shows that of 26 samples of milks delivered for pasteurisation, 18 fell below a reasonable standard of cleanliness; and of that number 14 concerned milks produced outside the Borough, and 4 concerned milks produced within the Borough.

One bulk sample of ordinary milk taken at a local farm was found to be tuberculous, but notwithstanding subsequent veterinary inspection of, and examination of the milk from, each of the cows, no diseased animal was detected. A further bulk sample also proved negative.

General Remarks. Notwithstanding that milk produced within the Borough compared favourably with that produced outside the Borough, the foregoing results of bacteriological examination, taken as a whole, clearly indicate that much leeway has to be made up before the public milk supply can

justly be regarded as satisfactory. More particularly does this apply in respect of ordinary (ungraded) milk, which, unfortunately, is not subject to any legal standard of cleanliness. When it is realised that 26 out of 45, or 57%, of the ordinary milk samples bacteriologically examined fell below a reasonable standard of cleanliness, and that 18 out of 26 or 69% of samples of milk delivered for pasteurisation were similarly unsatisfactory, the need for improvement is all the more emphasised. The great need of the dairy industry, locally, seems to be the education and training of those engaged therein in the hygienic aspects of milk production and distribution; not so much by what is known as text-book instruction as by practical demonstrations in proper dairy technique. It might be stated with truth that if only the conduct of every dairy-worker, from cowman to retailer, could always be regulated by a full realisation of the important fact that bacterial contamination (pollution transmitted by manure, dust, or unclean hands and utensils) once imparted to milk, can never be adequately corrected, at one stroke a revolution in the interests of a clean milk supply would be secured; but it is more to education than official action that hopes should be directed to achieve this desirable end. Hence there would appear here to be an opportunity for local educational authorities to offer the means of training to the dairy worker, just as they do to the clerk, textile operative, engineer, and others. Whilst there may be varying opinions as to the special difficulties in the way of putting such a suggestion into operation, there can be only one view as to need. In the meantime efficient pasteurisation appears to be the most promising instrument by which the public can protect itself against the risks which the foregoing adverse results of bacteriological examination reveal.

The action taken by the Department as and when unsatisfactory results came to hand, was to supply the producer with a copy of the report, visit the farm or premises concerned, and give advice verbally and by written word. In the case of producers outside the Borough, copies of unsatisfactory reports were forwarded to the Medical Officers of Health of the districts concerned for their information and necessary action.

Where pasteurised milk was concerned with unsatisfactory reports the matter was taken up with the firm operating the plant.

(3) **The issue of licences pursuant to the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.**

The numbers of licences in force during 1937 were as follows :

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk.			
Dealers' Retailing Licences	....	....	7
Supplementary Licences	....	....	3
(b) Pasteurised Milk.			
Pasteurisers' Licences	....	....	1
Supplementary Licences	....	....	4
(c) Accredited Milk.			
Producers' Licences granted by the			
West Riding County Council	....	....	3

REPORTS OF VETERINARY INSPECTOR.

12th February, 1937.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Batley Borough.

I beg to report that on the 19th January, 1937, Mr. J. M. McKellar, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Assistant Veterinary Officer, made an inspection of the cows on the registered milk producers' premises in the above Borough accompanied by the local Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Pearson.

Mr. McKellar visited 16 farms and examined 266 cows (229 in milk and 37 dry) taking four samples of milk for bacteriological examination. In none of these, however, were tubercle bacilli demonstrated and with the exception of three cows suffering from forms of mastitis or garget no case of scheduled disease was noted.

Mr. McKellar reports that the general health of the cattle was found to be good and their cleanliness as well as that of the premises satisfactory. I would, however, call attention to the following unsatisfactory features noted.

J. P. Critchley, Batley Hall, Upper Batley. The space behind the cows is insufficient and the drain opens inside the cowshed. I am also informed that the milk is cooled in the open yard.

F. Tetley, Hillside, Batley. In one of the cowsheds the space is insufficient. In the main shed there are calf pens behind the cows. This feature is unsatisfactory as regards milk production and most unsuitable for the health of the calves.

J. Willans, Crofthouse. The drain in the cowshed opens inside and there are calf pens behind the cows.

(Signed) D. S. RABAGLIATI,
Chief Veterinary Officer.

3rd June, 1937.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Batley Borough.

I beg to inform you that Mr. J. M. McKellar, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Assistant Veterinary Officer, has recently made an inspection of the cows on the registered milk producers' premises in your Borough, accompanied by the local assistant sanitary inspectors. This visit is the first paid to the borough since the amalgamation.

Mr. McKellar visited 29 farms and examined 401 cows (380 in milk and 21 dry) taking two samples of milk and four of expectorate for bacteriological examination. In one sample of milk and one of the expectorates, tubercle bacilli were demonstrated and the cows responsible were duly reported to the borough authority, under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order.

Mr. McKellar also noted eight cows to be suffering from forms of mastitis or "garget" but with the exception of the cows already mentioned, the remainder of the cattle were healthy and in good order.

I am informed that the general cleanliness both of the cattle and premises was found to be satisfactory.

(Signed) D. S. RABAGLIATI,

Chief Veterinary Officer.

8th October, 1937.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Batley Borough.

I beg to inform you that Mr. J. M. McKellar, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Assistant Veterinary Officer, has recently made an inspection of the cows on the registered milk producers' premises in your borough, accompanied by the local assistant sanitary inspector.

Mr. McKellar visited 31 farms and examined 457 cows (437 in milk and 20 dry), taking four samples of milk and four of expectorate for bacteriological examination. In one sample of milk and in the four expectorates tubercle bacilli were demonstrated and the five cows responsible were duly reported to the borough authority, under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order.

Mr. McKellar also noted six cows to be suffering from forms of mastitis or "garget" but with the exception of these and the cows mentioned above, the remainder of the cattle were healthy and in good order.

I am informed that the general cleanliness both of cattle and premises was found to be satisfactory.

(Signed) D. S. RABAGLIATI,

Chief Veterinary Officer.

5th June, 1937.

I have again the pleasure of submitting a Report of my Inspection of the Milk cows in the Borough and extended portion of the Borough.

We have an useful class of Dairy Cow apparently healthy, general condition satisfactory.

With the exception of three cows suffering from garget (good evidence that the secretion in each case is not drawn on to the floor) I note no case of a Scheduled disease.

During the six months I have placed under T.B. Order four cows, two with T.B. Udders and two advanced T.B.

I have from Stephenson's taken for special examination one sample of Milk, result not as yet known.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) GEO. WHITEHEAD,

M.R.C.V.S.

29th December, 1937.

I have again the pleasure of submitting a Report of my Inspection (this month) of the Milk cows in the Borough.

I visited 31 farms and inspected 457 cows.

Following my last report, 7 cows have been placed under the Tuberculosis Order, the Post Mortems revealing Tuberculosis, 3 of these Tuberculous Udders; one cow (Marsden's) diagnosed after testing the milk. Stephenson's cow named in the May report, the milk proved negative.

Excepting 6 cows suffering from Garget (good evidence of correctly dealing with the secretions) the general health and condition of the cows I found to be good.

One experienced many deaf quarters.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) GEO. WHITEHEAD,

M.R.C.V.S.

(b) **MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.**

(By Mr. H. Hornby).

During 1937, 1,133 visits by day and 2 by night were made to slaughterhouses; 142 visits by day and 62 by night to meat shops; and 42 visits by day and 7 by night to the market.

The total number of carcasses and their organs examined in local slaughterhouses was 9,088, consisting of 1,921 Beasts, 149 Calves, 4,736 Sheep, and 2,282 Pigs.

As a result over 7 tons of diseased, unsound or unwholesome meat and other foods were condemned and destroyed as being unfit for human food.

On reference to the table showing surrenders of Unsound Food, Offals, etc., 1937, it will be observed that the amount condemned is more by over one ton than the corresponding figure for the previous year.

Of all meat condemned in the beef class, 89 per cent. was for tuberculosis, as against 83 per cent. for the previous year. As regards pigs, 88 per cent. of the total weight condemned was for tuberculosis, as against 81 per cent. for the previous year.

It will, therefore, be clear that quite apart from the public health aspect, this single disease still continues to be the chief factor governing the losses which the trade sustains annually at the instance of the Public Health Department. No legal proceedings were taken during 1937, all diseased, unsound, or unwholesome food dealt with by the Department being condemned in circumstances which permitted of it being voluntarily surrendered for destruction at the Corporation Destructor Works.

SURRENDERS OF UNSOUND FOOD, OFFAL, Etc., 1937.

Numbers of whole carcasses, parts of carcasses, organs, and offals condemned as unfit for food:—

	Cattle.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Total
Whole Carcasses					
(including organs)	3	—	1	7	11
Part Carcasses	12	—	—	1	13
Heads	81	2	—	159	242
Tongues	95	2	—	159	256
Lungs	231	5	2	229	467
Livers	104	11	—	94	209
Spleens	6	3	—	3	12
Hearts	11	4	—	97	112
Kidneys	8	—	—	1	9
Stomachs	7	—	—	37	44
Mesenteries	41	—	—	74	115
Diaphragms	9	—	—	—	9

CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION AND WEIGHTS.

	Cattle.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Totals
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Tuberculosis	9763	—	4	4078	13845
Distomatosis	263	20	—	—	283
Abscesses	694	—	—	24	718
Cirrhosis	32	—	—	59	91
Parasitic Cysts	14	23	—	20	57
Inflammation	92	4	—	423	519
Necrosis	4	—	—	—	4
Actinomycosis	70	—	—	—	70
Bruising	56	—	—	—	56
Umbilical Pyæmia	—	—	79	—	79
Totals	10988	47	83	4604	15722

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
equals	7	—	1	14

40 Qts. Cockles.
 80 Qts. Mussels.
 1 St. Bananas.
 12 Cabbages.
 20 bundles Celery.
 10 couples White Hares.
 2 lbs. Canned Chicken Fillets.
 1 lb. Lunch Tongue.
 15 Doz. Eggs.

All the above foods were condemned on account of decomposition; weight	....	—	5	—	12
Total	....	7	5	1	26

COMPARISON WITH RECENT YEARS.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.		Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
1927	9	14	1	5	1932	8	12	2	3
1928	9	5	0	7	1933	7	4	0	17
1929	8	12	3	23	1934	6	5	3	2
1930	10	11	0	26	1935	9	8	3	2
1931	7	3	1	16	1936	6	0	1	7

The following table is in the form required by the Ministry of Health:—

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1937.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	1,700	221	149	6,424	2,282
Number inspected	1,700	221	149	4,736	2,282
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
All carcasses condemned	Nil.	Nil.	1	Nil.	Nil.
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned....	88	18	Nil.	17	179
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis*	5%	8%	.7%	.4%	8%
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcasses condemned....	2	1	Nil.	Nil.	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned....	85	46	1	Nil.	201
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5%	21%	.7%	Nil.	9%

The Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year under review, but verbal warnings were from time to time given by the Sanitary Inspectors, chiefly in connection with minor irregularities relating to notifications of slaughter, and the inadequate protection against contamination of meat and other foods exposed for sale. As previously observed, there is still far too much carelessness in the manner in which the people's foods are handled, and it is quite obvious to any close observer that what is really lacking amongst a large number of persons engaged in the food distribution trades is the exercise of a greater measure of commonsense and pride in their important occupations. If only the small retailer generally would develop the same regard for the simple principles of hygiene as many of the bigger food producers there would perhaps be little to complain of. The practice of displaying food outside shops in such a way as to invite fouling by dogs is not only disgusting but definitely dangerous to the public health. Many warnings have been, and are being, given by the Inspectors. If customers would refuse to purchase under such conditions the practice would cease. These remarks apply more especially to the sale of vegetables.

(c) **ADULTERATION, ETC.****FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.****Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925.**

(This section is by the Senior Sanitary Inspector—
Mr. H. Hornby.)

During the year under review, 155 samples of milk and miscellaneous foods, as detailed in the appended Table I., were purchased and submitted to the Public Analyst, who certified 149 samples to be genuine, 1 doubtful, and 5 adulterated. This gives an adulteration figure of 3.2% as compared with 5.8% for the previous year.

Particulars of any administrative action taken in respect of samples adulterated are given in Table II., wherein it will be seen that legal proceedings were not taken in any instance.

A further comparison shows that of the 130 milk samples analysed 5 were adulterated, which gives an adulteration figure for milk of 3.8% as compared with 5.8% for the previous year.

On reference to Table III. which gives the average composition of milk samples, it will be seen that the average fat content of 3.66% was rather better than the figure for the previous year when it was 3.62%.

Table IV. gives the results of examination of various foods for preservatives and colouring matters controlled by the Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927. It will be seen that, in all, 20 different foods were examined. Of this number 9 are in a class wherein preservatives are entirely prohibited. In no case was preservative detected in any of these. As regards the remaining 11 samples, comprising a class in which specified preservatives are permitted to a small degree, the standard was not contravened in any instance.

No sample was found to contain any colouring matters prohibited by the Regulations, i.e., Metallic Colouring Matters, Compounds of Antimony, Arsenic, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Mercury, Lead, Zinc, Gamboge, and certain Coal Tar Colours.

So far as it is safe to form a conclusion upon the limited number of samples taken locally, it would appear that the introduction of dangerous preservatives and colouring matters into foods, formerly practised to a considerable degree, has been discontinued.

TABLE I.

Particulars of Foods sampled and Results of Analysis.

Sample.	Formal.	Informal.	Genuine.	Adulterated.	Doubtful.	Total.
Milk	130	—	125	5	—	130
Condensed Milk	—	2	2	—	—	2
Canned Cream	—	1	—	—	1	1
Butter	—	2	2	—	—	2
Margarine	—	2	2	—	—	2
Jam	—	2	2	—	—	2
Marmalade	—	1	1	—	—	1
Sultanas	—	2	2	—	—	2
Dried Fruit	—	1	1	—	—	1
Candied Peel	—	1	1	—	—	1
Glace Cherries	—	1	1	—	—	1
Ground Almonds	—	1	1	—	—	1
Pepper	—	1	1	—	—	1
Pickles	—	1	1	—	—	1
Sauce	—	1	1	—	—	1
Sausage	—	2	2	—	—	2
Ground Coffee	—	1	1	—	—	1
Coffee Extract	—	1	1	—	—	1
Ginger Wine	—	1	1	—	—	1
Sardines	—	1	1	—	—	1
	<hr/> 130	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 149	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 155
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

TABLE II.

**Administrative action taken in respect of samples reported
by the Public Analyst to be not genuine.**

Spl. No	Nature of samples and results of analysis.	Remarks.
1	Milk—Fat 2.86% Solids not fat 8.58%	Vendors cautioned by the West Riding County Council, which authority bears the cost of analyses and reserves to itself the right of taking legal proceedings.
7	Milk—Fat 2.64% Solids not fat 9.16%	
49	Milk—Fat 2.64% Solids not fat 8.86%	
46	Milk—Fat 2.76% Solids not fat 9.12%	
50	Milk—Fat 2.76% Solids not fat 8.84%	

TABLE III.

Monthly Average Composition of Milk Samples.

Month.	No. of Samples.	Analytical Data.	
		Average Milk Fat, per cent.	Average Non-fatty solids per cent.
January	6	3.45	8.95
February	12	3.46	9.02
March	6	3.54	9.04
April	18	3.77	9.15
May	6	3.91	8.96
June	17	3.46	9.03
July	13	3.49	8.91
August	6	3.79	8.89
September	23	3.80	9.04
October	17	3.79	9.09
November	6	3.78	8.97
December	—	—	—
Average for the year 1937	....	3.66	9.03
Average for the year 1936	....	3.62	9.04
Average for the year 1935	....	3.73	9.01
Average for the year 1934	....	3.61	9.10
Average for the year 1933	....	3.50	9.04
Requirements of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901		3.00	8.50

TABLE IV.

**Articles of Food examined for Preservative in accordance with
the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations
1925.**

Food.	No. of samples examined.	Nature of Preser- vative.	Amount.		Remarks.
			Allowed.	Found.	
Milk	130	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Condensed Milk	2	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Canned Cream	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Butter	2	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Margarine	2	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Jam	2	Sulphur dioxide.	40 parts per million.	Standard not contravened.	
Marmalade	1	do.	do.	do.	
Sultanas	2	do.	750 parts per million.	do.	
Dried Fruit	1	do.	2,000 parts per million.	do.	No prohibited colouring matter was detected in any sample.
Candied Peel	1	do.	100 parts per million.	do.	
Glace Cherries	1	do.	do.	do.	
Ground Almonds	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Pepper	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Pickles	1	Benzoic Acid.	250 parts per million.	Standard not contravened.	
Sauce	1	do.	do.	do.	
Sausage	2	Sulphur dioxide.	450 parts per million.	do.	
Ground Coffee	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Coffee Extract	1	Benzoic Acid.	450 parts per million.	Standard not contravened.	
Ginger Wine	1	Sulphur dioxide, or Benzoic Acid.	350 parts per million. 600 parts per million.	Standard not contravened.	
Sardines	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	

(d) **CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD** has not—apart from milk—been required during 1937. Reference may be made to page 58 of the Annual Report for 1933 of the Medical Officer of Health, where further particulars appear. If such work was required samples would be submitted to the West Riding County Council laboratory.

(e) **NUTRITION.**—Reference may be made on page 58 of the above-mentioned report. The position is similar to-day.

Dissemination of knowledge is proceeding daily through the instruction given in the homes of the people by the Health Visitors, and at the Welfare Centre by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health. The Maternity Home is also useful, because during their residence patients learn many points about food values, the proper feeding of their families and themselves.

On pages 5 and 6 of the Annual Report for 1935 of the School Medical Officer appear tables which demonstrate the great improvement of the physique of Batley children during the last 25 years. This is satisfactory, though much greater improvement could be shown if many parents would accept and act upon the advice given to them.

(f) **SHELL FISH (Molluscan).**—Owing to its geographical position there are no shell fish beds or layings in Batley.

Mussels and cockles sold in Batley usually come from beds off the Lancashire coast. In the past it was not unusual for cases of enteric fever in the town to result from the consumption of raw shellfish from these regions, but latterly such has not been so.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.
Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1937.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.											Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
		Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 and over	
Smallpox	—	—	3	5	5	15	35	19	8	6	3	2	93	—
Scarlet Fever	101	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases notified as Scarlet Fever but discharged from Hospital as not having suffered from that disease	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diphtheria	59	—	3	—	2	4	18	14	6	10	1	1	55	4
Cases notified as Diphtheria but discharged from Hospital as not having suffered from that disease	15	—	—	—	—	2	3	4	1	2	—	3	15	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1+	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	3*	—
Pneumonia	34	3	3	3	—	3	6	2	3	2	4	4	19†	5
Other diseases generally notifiable—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	8	4	2
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1§	—
Other diseases notifiable locally	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	234	6	10	8	7	24	63	39	18	27	11	18	192	11

† Patient removed to Batley Hospital.

* Of these 3 patients, 1 was inmate of Batley Hospital at time of notification, 1 was removed to Batley Hospital, and 1 was removed to County Hospital.

† Of these 19 patients, 15 were removed to Batley Hospital and 4 to County Hospital.

§ Patient removed to County Hospital.

2. **SMALLPOX.**—No case occurred during the year. A practitioner requested the M. O. H. in July to see, in consultation with him, a man aged 69 who presented some of the classical symptoms of the disease whilst, at the same time, shewed others which were opposed to the probability of the case being Smallpox. He was removed to the Isolation Hospital as a precautionary measure and, as expected, proved not to be a Smallpox case.

SCARLET FEVER.—102 cases were notified during the year, as against 144 the previous year. One patient was discharged from hospital as not suffering from the disease. The type generally was mild. No deaths occurred. There were two return cases.

DIPHTHERIA.—There was an increase in the number of notifications received, 74 being the number as against 49 in 1936. There were six deaths. The disease was of the gravis type. Fifteen patients who had been notified to be suffering from diphtheria were discharged following admission to hospital, as not having had diphtheria, the original diagnosis being wrong.

Diphtheria Immunisation continued during the year under the Corporation's free scheme.

From January, 1935 to December, 1937, the Medical Officer of Health personally dealt with 3,145 attendances, mostly children, but in some instances adults.

Amongst the true cases notified during 1937, three were stated to have been previously immunised.

The particulars are as follows:—

- D. W. aged 5. Injections 18th Dec., 1935, 2nd and 15th Jan., 1936, by M.O.H. Onset of diphtheria, July 25th, 1937. Mild attack.
- S. G., aged 4. Stated by parent to have been immunised by family doctor in June, 1935. Onset of diphtheria, July, 1937. Mild attack.
- H. M., aged 14. Stated by parent to have been immunised by Assistant S.M.O. in a neighbouring town in Spring of 1936. Onset, Nov. 21st, 1937. In hospital forty days.

It is to be regretted that there is still considerable opposition by parents to immunisation of their children. It is certain that if the six persons who died from diphtheria during 1937 had been immunised, most, if not all, would have been alive to-day.

The scheme under which parents may have their children immunised by the family doctor still exists. It is free of charge, the doctors being paid 2/- per attendance or 6/- in all for each case by the County Council.

ENTERIC FEVER (including **PARATYPHOID**.—No resident of Batley was a victim of this disease—so far as is known—during 1937.

PUERPERAL FEVER and **PUERPERAL PYREXIA**.—One case of Puerperal Fever was notified. The patient, aged 26, was a married woman who was delivered of twins in her own home by a midwife who practised on her own account. The patient was removed to Batley Hospital, eventually recovering. Five cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. Two were in Batley Maternity Home, both under treatment, before and after delivery, by their family doctors, for Pyelitis and Cystitis. Of these one was transferred to Batley Hospital and the others went home. Of the three others, one was an inmate of Batley Hospital at the time of notification, another in the County Hospital at the time of notification, and the third was delivered at home by an independent midwife.

PNEUMONIA (Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal).—The regulations respecting the notification of this disease are largely ignored by practitioners. 25 deaths were registered as being caused by pneumonia—not necessarily acute primary or acute influenzal pneumonia. 34 cases of these forms of the disease were notified. Failure to notify has been mentioned on various occasions in previous annual reports. Of those notified 15 were removed to Batley Hospital, and 4 to the County Hospital.

ERYSIPELAS was notified 15 times. No special comment is called for. Four cases were removed to hospital.

CEREBRO SPINAL MENINGITIS.—No notifications were received.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.—One case was notified, the patient being a boy aged 5. He was admitted to the County Hospital on April 16th, 1937, the onset being stated to be four days previously. He was discharged on May 8th, the remarks being "he has made an apparent complete recovery."

INFLUENZA needs no special comment. There was no epidemic during 1936, but about the last week in December the disease became prevalent, continuing into February, 1937. Twenty deaths were certified to be the result of influenza.

NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES become known to the department principally through the agency of Teachers, Health Visitors, School Nurses, School Attendance Officers, Parents, etc. During 1937, Head Teachers notified 155 and the School Attendance Officers 12 cases.

The average weekly number of scholars excluded either as patients or contacts during the year for notifiable or non-notifiable diseases was:—

Diphtheria	....	....	6.4	Mumps	....	....	0.7
Scarlet Fever	....	....	10.9	Impetigo	....	....	2.2
Measles	....	....	0.7	Scabies and Itch	....	....	1.0
Whooping Cough	....	....	3.1	Verminous Conditions	....	....	2.8
Chickenpox	....	....	20.3	Ringworm	....	....	0.1
				Ac. Anterior			
				Poliomyelitis	....	....	0.2

4. (a) **PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.**

No action has been taken under Sec. 66 Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes, the local facilities appearing to be sufficient.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM, 1937.

Year	CASES			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Notified	Treated					
		At Home	In Hospital				
1937	2	2	—	2	—	—	—

(b) **PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925.**

No action was taken or called for during 1937.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Section 62.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, Section 172.

No action was taken or called for during 1937.

5. **TUBERCULOSIS IN BATLEY, 1937.**

Age Periods.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—
15	1	2	—	2	1	1	—	—
25	1	1	—	1	2	1	1	—
35	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	7	—	6	8	4	1	—

The relationship between notification of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease is shown in the following table, which covers the period between January 1st, 1913, and December 31st, 1937:—

Death before notification	114	Death 6 months after	17
Death 1 month, or under after notification	165	Death 7 months after	17
Death 2 months after	53	Death 8 months after	10
Death 3 months after	29	Death 9 months after	6
Death 4 months after	20	Death 10 months after	4
Death 5 months after	17	Death 11 months after	9
		Death 12 months and over	147

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths during 1937 was 1 to 13, or 7.7 per cent.

Housing conditions of patients notified to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the 19 years 1919 to 1937 were as follows:—

Years	Notifica- tions		Type of House		Occupants									Houses with more than one Patient Notified	Living Rooms					Bedrooms.				Sleeping Accommodation for Patients							
	M.	F.	B.	to B.	Single	Through	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9 and over	1	2	3	4	5 and over	1	2	3	4 and over	Separate Room	Shared Room	Separate Bed	Shared Bed		
1919 to 1937 (inclusive)	382	312	320	168	188		3	72	145	132	127	75	52	26	44	82	71	215	195	109	57	29	236	315	109	15	158	522	328	352	
Year 1937	4	7	3	2	4		—	3	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	1	—	2	7	6	3

As this will be my last Annual Report to Batley Corporation, it had been my intention to write a summary of the Public Health conditions in Batley when I came here in March, 1910, and compare the position then with that of to-day, April, 1938. I found that to do it justice the summary would be too lengthy. Suffice it to say that should any persons be sufficiently interested to examine the Annual Reports during the last thirty years they will be surprised. Many of us talk about "the good old days" and are in doubt whether they were really so, or should more accurately be described as "the bad old days." From the Public Health standpoint there can be no dispute as to the proper designation when applied to Batley. We have heard much about Typhoid Fever recently. Thirty years since (1908) there were 31 cases notified in Batley, with seven deaths. What was usual in those days would have created a tremendous uproar to-day.

A certain amount of re-organisation is necessary in the department, which will be one of the first things to attract the attention of my successor.

The School Dental Clinic is out of date and in need of modernisation to bring it up to present standards of efficiency. There has been no school dentist here for more than a year which has prevented progress.

Arrangements are overdue for the provision of accommodation for complete dental treatment of prospective and nursing mothers on behalf of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

The Open Air School does not conform with present day requirements. This is referred to on pages 14 and 15 of the Annual Report for 1937 of the School Medical Officer.

The present headquarters of the Public Health Department are too small to provide reasonable accommodation for those who, at present, are working in it under conditions of overcrowding. The remedy is a new building specially designed and constructed for the purpose, or, when a new Town Hall is decided upon, provision to be made for the incorporation therein of a modern Public Health Department.

From the Corporation's standpoint, and in the interests of the Public Health, it is desirable that when in the future a vacancy arises through the operation of the Superannuation Act, the Medical Officer of Health of Batley should succeed

the Medical Superintendent of the Oakwell Hospital. This observation refers solely to administration and not to any individual. Such action was recommended wherever possible by the Local Government Board many years since.

Marshall v. Lindsey County Council. Last year this case was discussed, but no action taken. In view of the Maternity Home being the property of the Batley Corporation I would again remind the Council of the importance of the decision and its possible adverse effect.

It would undoubtedly be an advantage if the Public Health Committee took over all the medical work of the Corporation. This has been advocated throughout the country for some years, and has become the rule in various places. It has also been proposed in the case of the central authorities. Locally, the fact that medical matters have often to come before the Public Health, Maternity and Child Welfare, and Education Committees hinders progress considerably.

Dr. Gwendolen Buckle was for some seven years in attendance once weekly at the Batley Child Welfare Centre and the Ante Natal Clinic. In September last she was appointed an Assistant Medical Officer, part time, to devote three whole days weekly to Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical work. The time has now arrived when complete re-organisation of the Maternity and Child Welfare department of the Council is desirable. The inclusion of the Urban District of Birstall within the Borough, many additions following Ministry of Health requirements, and other circumstances, have made this necessary.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector and myself desire to place on record the great assistance rendered in the clerical section by Miss Lister, Chief Clerk. Entering the department nearly fifteen years ago, this officer is completely familiar with the whole of the working of a modern Public Health Department.

Since April, 1934 (nearly five years) she has performed most satisfactorily all the duties of a chief clerk. The Health Committee is fully aware of the special reasons why Miss Lister had to take over this work and has had the advantage of her services as such. During the last year she has been responsible for the preparation of new clerical schemes affecting her department through the enlargement of the Borough by the inclusion of Birstall therein, the institution of a service of municipal midwives, an orthopædic clinic and a variety of other additions.

After negotiations lasting about two years, a grading scheme for clerical services was adopted by the Corporation and the following document was drawn up for presentation to the Health Committee:—

“ After careful consideration and full discussion of the position occupied by Miss Lister, Chief Clerk in the Public Health Department, we are unanimously of opinion that this officer should forthwith be put into what we consider is the proper grade under the Grading Scheme adopted by the Batley Corporation, viz., the Administrative Grade.”

Signed:—

ALFRED MILNES, Chairman Public Health Committee.

C. H. FEARNSIDES, Vice-Chairman Public Health Committee.

G. H. PEARCE, Medical Officer of Health.

H. HORNBY, Senior Sanitary Inspector.

2nd February, 1938.

On the considered advice of the staff side representatives on the local Whitley Council, this recommendation was referred to the Public Health Committee.

Extract from minutes of Public Health Committee, February 16th, 1938:

36. Public Health Department—Chief Clerk.

Resolved:—That Miss K. Lister, Chief Clerk in the Public Health Department since 5th July, 1936, be placed in the Administrative Grade, Section A, of the Corporation's Salary and Grading Scheme for the Clerical Staff, as from the 1st April, 1938, at the commencing salary of £200 per annum for that Grade.

The Chairman declared the Resolution unanimously carried.

Later the Chairman of the Public Health Committee informed the Senior Sanitary Inspector and myself that he had been requested to withdraw the above resolution at the meeting of the Town Council, so that it might be referred to the Local Whitley Council which is a joint committee consisting of four members of the Town Council and four officials. Mr. Hornby, who is one of the staff representatives, was present at the meeting of the local Whitley Council and states that, notwithstanding his protest, the joint committee refused to give consideration to the recommendation of the Public Health Committee and decided by a majority that the grading scheme recently adopted by the Corporation, in which Miss Lister is graded below that of Chief Clerks, should stand.

On page 5 of the annual report of the Batley branch of the N.A.L.G.O., with reference to the completion of the salaries and grading scheme adopted by the Batley Corporation for the clerical staff, is a statement to the effect that the tentative grading "had been done by the chief officials of the various departments." This is not true in so far as it concerns the Public Health Department, for the Medical Officer of Health had no knowledge of this scheme and was never at any time invited to give his opinion. He wrote the hon. secretary asking that this statement should be withdrawn, but his letter was not acknowledged and the incorrect statement remains.

The position is that this officer having acted for a long period as Chief Clerk concerned with the general administration of the instructions of the Corporation and being responsible for the whole of the clerical work of the Public Health Department, including considerable recent additions, has also had to train the four other clerks, each of whom entered the office as juniors and will, if things are not rectified, receive in due course more salary than the chief clerk, apart altogether from the fact that her status is lowered. Such circumstances must of necessity, have a detrimental effect upon the Corporation's work.

No official reason has been given for this treatment, but it has often been mentioned, and is common knowledge, that the sole cause is the fact that the Chief Clerk in the Public Health Department is a woman. Up to 1929 a woman was Chief Clerk in the Public Health Department for about seven years, so there is a precedent. It is emphasised that Miss Lister had no knowledge of our intention to make these remarks (which are not an attempt at dictation) and is in no way, directly or indirectly, responsible for them. Our object is to bring the facts to the notice of each member of the Town Council, many of whom are not aware of the true position, in the hope that justice may be done. During the recent illness of the Chief Clerk, when she was absent for a month, the Medical Officer of Health and the Senior Sanitary Inspector had to take over a large part of the work of the clerical department because the four clerks, two of whom are seventeen and one sixteen years of age, were not sufficiently experienced to carry on without direction and supervision. Each of them had his salary increased on April 1st in accordance with the scale, the junior with eight months' service to the extent of £13 per annum, yet the chief of the department who has taught them their duties, so far as they have yet learnt them, was advanced £3 per annum or approximately one shilling and a penny per week.

The Inspectorial Department is, after many year's argument, at last fully staffed by competent inspectors who know their work and do it thoroughly. Unfortunately Batley has the reputation of being a "jumping off" place for both Health Visitors and Inspectors, so how long the present state of affairs will last cannot be predicted.

The Inpectors' salaries were reviewed by the salaries sub-committee, when an increase was approved of £25 per annum by two annual increments of £12 10s. 0d., to bring their salaries up to the amount similar officers in a neighbouring borough are paid. This was struck out by the Finance Committee. If a grading scheme for the District Sanitary Inspectors, comparable with that already mentioned is adopted, the unrest will automatically cease.

Mr. Hornby, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, was invited to accept the position of A.R.P. officer towards the end of 1937. As a patriot it was impossible for him to refuse, and he knew that his military experiences in France and Italy during the war would be of considerable assistance, hence he accepted the position (unpaid) for the time being, knowing that it would not be possible for him to discharge his duties as Senior Sanitary Inspector in addition, and such has proved to be a fact. The salaries sub-committee had recommended an increase in his salary as Senior Sanitary Inspector of £25 per annum. This was struck out by the Finance Committee, whilst at the same time his work had been more than doubled.

In my opinion Batley is fortunate in retaining the services of Mr. Hornby as one of its officials. As the Senior Sanitary Inspector he possesses much more than an average knowledge of the scientific side of his profession, and as an administrator he will do his duty, irrespective of who may, or may not, be involved, and without consideration of possible adverse consequences to himself. I have found him to be a loyal colleague, and on many occasions have been indebted to him for advice and assistance in connection with public health problems. The severance of our official connection will be a source of sincere regret to me.

G. H. PEARCE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Officer's Department.

Batley.

April, 1938.

